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DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXIX, No. 21

Section 1

April 29, 1938

ELECTRIC EEL RESEARCH

"Scientific studies of the electric eel, the living "Dynamo" said to generate power strong enough to kill a horse, provide a large-scale model for the study of the minute electrical impulses involved in the nervous activity of all animals, including man, a meeting last night of the International Scientific Radio Union, Institute of Radio Engineers and the American Physical Society was told", reports William L. Laurence in the New York Times. "The studies, which also shed new light on the evolutionary process and yield a new clue on the origin of cataracts, were presented by Dr. Christopher W. Coates of the New York Aquarium, and Dr. Richard R. Cox of the Department of Physics at New York University....."

TEXTILE RESEARCH

A group of advisers has been designated by the Textile Foundation to plan and place under way a scientific research program, the Department of Commerce announced yesterday. Dr. A. G. Black of the Department of Agriculture is a member of the group. A major part of the research work will be done at the National Bureau of Standards but certain fields have been set aside for Lowell Textile Institute, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Yale University. Allotments of funds have been provided on a long-time basis, the announcement said. (Press.)

BRITISH TRADE PACT

An Associated Press report from London says conclusion of a new trade agreement between Britain and Denmark was announced in the House of Commons. R. S. Hudson, Secretary for the Overseas Trade Department, said Denmark would increase its imports of British goods by about \$5,740,000 annually. Denmark supplies Britain with a large amount of dairy products, bacon and eggs.

INTERNATIONAL PAYMENTS

Net international payments by the United States on trade and service accounts in 1937, on the basis of preliminary data, amounted to only \$49,000,000, compared with \$160,000,000 in 1936, according to the annual studies of international payments by Dr. Amos E. Taylor, made public yesterday by Secretary of Commerce Roper. Dr. Taylor, who is assistant chief of the finance division of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, observed that the figure for net payments, which includes interest and dividend items, "strongly reflected" this country's long-term creditor position. (Press.)

Livestock Hauling by Truck "The decided trend toward motor trucks for livestock hauling is spotlighted in a recent annual government statistical summary, the yearly tabulation entitled 'Drive-In Receipts of Livestock,' of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics," says *Implement & Tractor* (April 16). "One interesting table contains figures on 'Receipts and Number and Per Cent of Drive-Ins' at seventeen markets combined, 1916 to 1937, inclusive and is particularly significant. This table not only shows annual figures of total receipts, drive-ins, and percentages for the four separate groups of livestock--cattle, calves, hogs, and sheep and lambs--but also a combined total of yearly receipts, total yearly drive-ins, and percentages. A graph prepared from this table by the International Harvester Co. shows that for 1916 the per cent figure was a mere 1.61 and for 1936, the peak year, it had risen to 54.85. In other words, total drive-ins by motor truck in 1916 were 984,559 out of total receipts of 61,100,023, while in 1936 total drive-ins by truck had increased to 27,104,590 out of total receipts of 49,418,327. In 1937, the total receipts were 46,415,024, while total drive-ins were 24,159,415, or 52.05 per cent..."

Purdue Farm Museum "The Purdue Agricultural Alumni Association, one of the most useful groups of college men in the country, asks us to remind you of their museum," says *Prairie Farmer* (April 23). "For a number of years they have been collecting agricultural relics in order to preserve for future generations some of the articles of equipment used by the pioneer farmers of the Middle West. They have, for instance, one of the earliest McCormick reapers, and a 'ground-hog thresher', both considered great labor-saving devices a hundred years ago. It's not a bad idea for the youngsters of today to get an idea of the way their grandfathers worked to make a living, and did a pretty good job of it, too. A farm boy ought to appreciate a combine after he has looked at an old-fashioned, back-breaking cradle. The museum is at Purdue University, and the man to write to is Professor William Aitkenhead, LaFayette, Indiana. If you have interesting old pieces of equipment, the Association would appreciate your writing and offering them to Professor Aitkenhead as part of the permanent exhibit. If accepted, they will carry a card with your name and the history of the equipment."

Fighting Farm Fires The *Nebraska Farmer* (April 23) commenting on the fact that "very few farmers are equipped with adequate defense against fire," says: "One way to meet this fire hazard in the country is by organizing a rural fire patrol. A few are operating in Nebraska. The latest one to be established is at Oakland, which serves farmers in a radius of about 12 miles...For the service of this equipment a resident farmer pays \$7, which entitles him to protection for the life of the fire truck (about 10 years). The truck will answer all calls in the territory, and if the fire is on a nonmember's property a charge of from \$25 to \$50 will be made...Late in March the membership stood at 410 with the completed list expected to exceed 500. There are approximately

650 farmers residing in the territory...Not the least of the benefits that farmers in the territory served by the patrol will derive is a lowered fire insurance rate. In most cases the saving over a period of years will amount to more than membership in the patrol."

Congress, The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations reported
April 27 additional amendments to S. 3804, authorizing temporary
 detail of United States employees to governments of American
republics and the Philippines. The bill was reported by that Committee,
April 21 (p. 7718).

Both Houses received a message from the President, recommending legislation to authorize an appropriation of \$90,000 for United States participation in the Eighth American Scientific Congress to be held in the United States in 1940; ref. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations and House Committee on Foreign Affairs (pp. 7718, 7756-7757).

The House passed with amendments H. R. 9996, to enable American trade associations to register and protect trade-marks (pp. 7757-7761).

The Committee on Civil Service will hold hearings, May 3, on retirement. (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Chemical Chemical Abstracts, the American Chemical Society
Abstracts publication which keeps chemists up to date upon the litera-
 ture of their science, is cooperating with the American
Documentation Institute in facilitating the publication of important re-
search material through the use of microfilm. Dr. E. J. Crane, editor,
has informed Cuthbert Lee, Director of ADI, that when Chemical Abstracts
abstracts a journal paper, part of which has been printed in the journal
and part deposited with the American Documentation Institute for auxiliary
publication, the abstract will give the document number assigned and also
the cost of obtaining a copy of the deposited material. These essential
data will be given in addition to the usual references. This new prac-
tice will save the time of scientists and will eliminate the necessity of
writing two letters in each case, Mr. Lee explained. Any scientist wishing
a copy of the deposited article simply sends his name and address and re-
mits the cost to obtain either a microfilm of the material which is easily
legible in a reading machine, or photoprints which are legible without
optical aid. (Science Service.)

Soviet Union The Soviet Union increased its exports of merchandise
Foreign Trade from \$271,820,800 in 1936 to \$347,726,800 in 1937, the Com-
 merce Department has announced, while imports in the Union
dropped slightly from \$270,507,000 to \$268,251,000. The United States led
as the source of imports, selling the Soviets \$48,861,000 worth of goods;
Germany was second, with sales of \$40,100,200, while Great Britain took
\$38,398,400. Great Britain was the leading source of destination of Soviet
exports during 1937, having purchased merchandise from that country valued
at \$113,229,000. Shipments from the Soviet Union to the United States dur-
ing the year were valued at \$26,882,400. (Press.)

Michelite Bean for Michigan "Twenty-nine years of scientific efforts are included in the reasons why Michigan continues to hold the nation's championship in producing field beans," says E. B. Swingle, Michigan State College, in the Michigan Farmer (April 23). "In 1908, F. A. Sprague, then plant breeder at M.S.C., began the first selection of a new variety, developing the Robust now used for seed for about three-fourths of the 500,000 acres grown in Michigan each year... Now there's another new variety which seems superior, Michelite. For 3 years it was tested under 'No. 115'. E. E. Down, plant breeder at the college, began work on selection for this variety in 1926... Parents of this new bean are Robust and Early Prolific. The new crossbred apparently combines the disease resistance of Robust and the productivity of this variety with the shape, color of seed coat and uniformity of size of the Early Prolific bean... No distribution of the bean has been permitted as yet until sufficient increase of the seed supply is obtained..."

Business Aids Farm Youth An Osage City (Kansas) report in the Topeka Capital (April 19) says seven purebred Holstein calves have been placed in the hands of seven Future Farmers, boys and girls of this territory. The Osage City Chamber of Commerce buys the calves and puts them out to the young people after the signing of a noninterest bearing note, to be paid in monthly installments after the calf comes into production. The Osage Chamber of Commerce this year, instead of working schemes for business promotion, is endeavoring to promote projects that will be an aid to the farmer and the community in general. In the drouth years dairy herds were depleted and in an effort to build up these herds, Holstein calves now are being given out to boys and girls, who are members of 4-H clubs. Recently a produce company here gave out 3,000 two-weeks-old chicks to 100 boys and girls in an effort to promote the chicken industry among the young folks.

Part-Time Farmers A widespread and significant expansion of part-time farming in Virginia is predicted in the report of B.L. and R.B. Hummel on a survey of part-time farming in seven representative counties of Virginia. The study was sponsored by the Works Progress Administration, the Virginia Extension Service and the Virginia Experiment Station. The average head of a part-time farming family earned \$835 in industrial employment, at which he worked almost full-time--234 days. In addition, the family obtained \$180 cash equivalent from the farm, chiefly from the home garden of .68 acres. The poultry flock was second in importance. "Meat and dairy products also were valuable contributions to the part-time enterprise, but only 55 per cent of the white operators kept hogs, 46 per cent owned cows, and 69 per cent kept chickens," the report said. "Almost the entire labor on the average farm was performed by the part-time operator and his family, and expenses for labor and supplies were small..." (Richmond Times Dispatch, April 25.)

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Vol. LXIX, No. 22

Section 1

May 2, 1938

LAND USE PROJECT

A Department of Agriculture submarginal land project of 10,290 acres in Eastern Connecticut is being turned over to State management for ninety-nine years, Connecticut accepting full responsibility for the protection, maintenance and proper use of the area. Completion of negotiations for management of this, the first of such projects designed for State administration, was announced Saturday by Secretary Wallace. Known as the New London Land Utilization Project, it covers selected areas of poor land in which farming has been unsuccessful, and will be developed for public recreation, forestry and wildlife conservation as part of a nation-wide program for more constructive use of land in depressed rural areas. (Press.)

FARM PRODUCTS PRICES DOWN

Prices of farm products are going down while the cost of things farmers buy remains unchanged, the Department of Agriculture reported Friday. In terms of the pre-war level, the farm products price index had dropped on April 15 to 94, the lowest figure in four years, the department said. A 2-point decline since March 15 was reported and a 36-point decline since April last year. The net result is that the ratio of prices received by farmers to prices paid by them has dropped to 75 percent of the pre-war level from 97 percent, where it stood a year ago. (Press.)

CCC TREE PLANTING

Addition of 100,000,000 trees to the national forest areas of the United States under the spring planting program of the Civilian Conservation Corps, will be completed by the end of May, it was announced yesterday. A major portion of the program already has been completed particularly in Southern States where 45,000,000 trees have been set out. An additional 40,000,000 trees are being planted in the North Central and Lake States, with the bulk of the work in Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota. (Washington Post.)

STATE SOIL CONSERVATION

The latest reports from State agriculture agencies show that thirty-nine soil conservation districts covering an area of more than 19,000,000 acres, have been organized by groups of farmers in eleven of the twenty-two States which recently enacted soil conservation district laws, Secretary Wallace reported yesterday. These districts, the Secretary said, were local organizations to deal with conservation problems in certain well-defined areas. (Press.)

Finding

New Crops

"If you keep your eyes open as you go about the farm you may find an improved strain of some crop that can be developed into an excellent money maker," says Capper's Farmer (May). "Earl Clari, Sedgwick county, Kansas, found three superior heads of wheat in his father's field. He saved them, increased the amount of seed, and found the new wheat would outyield every other variety in his county. Now Clark's Blackhull is grown over a wide area from northern Texas to central Kansas, and increases production of the area by millions of bushels annually. Clark's eyes were opened to the possibility of improved selections, and he has developed a number of other new varieties. Two men in Hennepin county, Minnesota, found a strawberry plant blooming and bearing in fall in a field of June bearing plants. Fred W. Barden, brother of one of the men, isolated the plant, increased it, and found he had a distinct new variety of ever-bearer. His first plants were sold in 1932, but demand has been so great for the new berry, named Wayzata, that plants still sell abnormally high. Braden not only is profiting by plant sales but by fruit sales as well. Last fall he was picking \$80 to \$90 worth a day from 2-3/4 acres. The year before he sold \$2,400 worth of fruit from 2 1/2 acres... John Brown, White county, Illinois, found a vine that produced watermelons different from those on other vines in his patch. The melons seemed superior to any others he grow. He saved seed from the melon, which proved to be a cross, worked with the variety until he had a distinctive improved melon that has been his best paying crop for years. These are but a few of the new crops developed from outstanding individual plants. Though many are developed by plant breeders, it is possible that more than half are the increase of superior plants discovered by growers who kept their eyes open..."

State Laws in

Marketing

Approval of a project to survey state marketing laws throughout the United States is announced by Corrington Gill, Assistant Administrator of the Works Progress Administration. The survey is designed to obtain legal and economic data concerning laws on the state statute books and make it available in useful form to all Federal and State governmental agencies, trade associations, businessmen, lawyers, students and teachers of law and marketing. Headquarters of the administrative staff will be in Washington, D. C. As the survey progresses, special state relief projects to obtain economic data will be established under the sponsorship of state universities or other public agencies where recent state laws have been operated long enough to produce effects. (American Produce Review, April 20.)

"Discovery"

Nature (London, March 26) says that there has recently been published "the first number of a new series of Discovery, the popular scientific monthly, which has been taken over by the Cambridge University Press and will provide the general reader with a regular link with the latest discoveries and developments in all branches of knowledge."

Senate,
April 28 Mr. Pope submitted the following amendments to the Agricultural Appropriation Bill for 1939 (H.R. 10238): Increasing "Forest influences" from \$114,152 to \$139,152; Increasing "Federal Crop Insurance Act" from \$5,000,000 to \$6,000,000, and providing an additional \$2,000,000 subject to approval of the President; Increasing "Water facilities, arid and semi-arid areas" from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000, and raising the limitation on the cost of each project from \$25,000 to \$50,000, giving the President authority to waive the limitation.

The Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry reported the following bills without amendment: S. 3836, relating to securing written consent for the reconcentration of cotton under section 383 (b) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (S. Rept. 1663); S. 3882, amending the act authorizing the collection and publication of cotton statistics by requiring a record of bales ginned by counties (S. Rept. 1664) (p. 7810).

House,
April 28 The House Committee on Expenditures reported without amendment H. R. 9848, to require that horses and mules belonging to the United States which have become unfit for service be destroyed or put to pasture (H. Rept. 2248) (p. 7884).

Mrs. Norton, Chairman of the Labor Committee, inserted in the Record a statement which she made before the Rules Committee, April 28, requesting a rule for consideration of the wages and hours bill (pp. 7842-7844). Mr. Fish spoke in favor of the revised wages and hours bill (pp. 7882-7883).

The House adjourned until May 2.

Item in Appendix: Speech by Mr. Schneider of Wis. in the House, March 22, "Farmers are Entitled to the Benefits of Electricity" (pp. 7912-7914).

Senate,
April 29 Mr. Norris submitted the following amendments to the Agricultural Appropriation Bill for 1939 (H. R. 10238) (p. 7920): Increasing "Cooperative farm forestry extension work" from \$56,838 to \$200,000, of which \$100,000 is for the Norris-Doxey Cooperative Farm Forestry Act; Increasing "Botany" from \$40,000 to \$76,635; and increasing the amount for investigating weed control and eradication from \$4,000 to \$40,000; Increasing "Cooperative farm forestry" (Forest Service) from \$100,000 to \$1,300,000, of which \$1,200,000 is for the Norris-Doxey Cooperative Farm Forestry Act, and providing that "not more than 20 percent of this amount be expended on the Prairie States forestry project in the Prairie Plains region; Striking out the proviso which prohibits the establishment of new tree nurseries by the Department; and Increasing "Agricultural engineering investigations from \$401,200 to \$431,200 to provide \$30,000 for investigating rural electrification."

Senate, April 29. (continued)

The Senate received a message from the President on the monopoly problem; he recommends a \$500,000 appropriation for study of the concentration of economic power and its effect upon the decline of competition; ref. Committee on Judiciary (S. Doc. 173) (pp. 7949-7953).

The Senate Committee on Territories and Insular Affairs reported without amendment S. 3894, to convey to Alaska a tract of land for a fur-farm experiment station (S. Rept. 1677) (p. 7920).

The Senate recessed until May 2.

The House was not in session. Its next meeting is today. (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Home Economics Teaching The May issue of the Journal of Home Economics contains the first article in a symposium on "New Ways of Teaching Home Economics." An editorial note says: "Modern education demands that the experiences which pupils have under the guidance of the school shall mean something to them in connection with the issues they meet in daily living. Some educators even go so far as to say that the in-school experience of pupils which does not actually help them to live better than they otherwise would, is not worthy of the label 'education'. Home economics is a subject which lends itself particularly well to lifelike in-school experience, as progressive schools and teachers have been realizing more and more during recent years. The papers in this symposium give a few of the many possible examples of what is already being done. The first four, which were obtained through Mrs. Kate W. Kinyon, head of the department of home economics in the public schools of Denver, Colorado, tell of ways in which home economics teachers in that city are attempting in schools of different types to make the experiences which pupils are having in the classroom more meaningful in their daily living. The next three describe how the same educational theory has been put in practice in a city, a suburban, and a rural county school system, while the last deals with an experiment in homemaking education on an Indian reservation..."

Billboards in Massachusetts In a Report to the Massachusetts Federation of Planning Boards, Horace B. Gale referred to the pioneer by-law restricting billboards adopted by the Town of Concord in 1925. The selectmen joined in the defense of the by-law in the now famous Supreme Court fight, which, "after ten years of litigation, established for the first time under the U. S. Constitution the far-reaching principle that a State can invoke the police power against billboards for aesthetic reasons, or because they are unsightly." The state law and regulations are now in full force in Massachusetts, but Mr. Gale points out that the existing regulations would banish only a part of the offensive billboards. He makes the claim that "The way is now clear for the planning boards to interest their townspeople and officials in protection from billboard blight by local laws." (Planning and Civic Comment, Jan.-Mar.)

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Vol. LXIX, No. 23

Section 1

May 3, 1938

FOREIGN TRADE RECOVERY

The United States has recovered \$1,700,000,000 of \$3,600,000,000 in foreign trade lost since 1932 largely through 16 reciprocal agreements with other nations, Henry F. Grady, vice chairman of the Tariff Commission, yesterday told the executives of the American Trade Association in their spring meeting. Imports, he said, have not been increased by the agreements. (Press.)

MEXICAN TARIFFS

A Mexico City report by the Associated Press says Mexican tariff rates were reduced yesterday under terms of a decree by which they were raised drastically four months ago and Finance Minister Eduardo Suarez drafted legislation for further reductions. The lower rates which became effective automatically were included in a decree issued by President Lazaro Cardenas in January. It increased duties on some 200 of Mexico's chief imports as much as 500 percent for the first 4 months of the year and provided reductions ranging from 20 percent up for the remaining 8 months.

WINTER WHEAT MOVEMENT

Anticipating that the winter wheat crop this year will be the largest for any year except one, the railroads have begun preparations to move it without delay or interference with other traffic, the Association of American Railroads has reported. The winter wheat production in the southwest is so large and comes in such volume over so short a period that the railroads will have to accumulate and store in this territory from 40,000 to 50,000 box cars especially suitable for grain loading. (Press.)

GOV. MYERS LEAVES FCA

Appointment of Dr. William I. Myers, Governor of the Farm Credit Administration, to head the Department of Agricultural Economics and Farm Management in Cornell University's College of Agriculture was announced yesterday. He left the department in 1933 to become Governor of the FCA. On returning July 1 he will succeed Dr. George F. Warren, one time monetary adviser to President Roosevelt. (Press.)

BRAZILIAN FLOUR PERMIT

An import-permit requirement for wheat flour was placed in effect yesterday by the Brazilian Supervisory Board for Flour Trade, according to a cable from the United States commercial attache at Rio de Janeiro and made public yesterday by the Department of Commerce. (New York Times.)

Highway Planning "It is quite probable that the most important undertaking in the whole program of American highway development, since the Federal Bureau of Public Roads was established, is the series of highway planning surveys now being carried on by forty-four of the states in cooperation with the Bureau," says Willard Chevalier in Engineering News-Record (April 28). "Today, physical design and construction must subordinate themselves to the economic factors...But, if we are to do as well with this job as we have done in our rapid physical expansion, we must have many new data on highway usage. We must learn how to measure more closely the existing and potential traffic on various routes and determine more precisely the dollars-and-cents value of that traffic to our people. We must assemble the basic data we need to route and design highways, not merely as 'improved roads' but rather as elements in a nationwide transportation machine that in its entirety will be self-liquidating in the broadest sense of the term. We must be equipped to spend every dollar of highway money so that it will return to government, the highway user and the general community the largest possible return. And all this is bound to become, with the passing of the years, a task of ever-increasing complexity. To the forty-four states that are cooperating in these surveys must go full credit for having seen the need and recognized the genuine economy that will inure to their people from these surveys. Over many years to come, the increased return on their highway investment in lower costs, both to the community and to the individual motorist, and in greater convenience to all, will justify the cost of the surveys..."

Development of Rural Sociology Sociology and Social Research (March-April) contains an abridgment of a paper, "The Development of Rural Sociology in the United States" by Paul H. Landis, State College of Washington. He says in part: "The work of the Country Life Commission, according to C. J. Galpin, 'probably moved rural sociology ahead a generation.' Rural sociology as such has developed along three lines--research, teaching, and extension work--and at the present time faces the problem of rural social work training...In 1911 C. J. Galpin was given a half-time appointment at the University of Wisconsin by H. C. Taylor, Head of the Agricultural Economics Department, to study the rural life problem. Galpin's first research bulletin was published in 1915 under the title, The Anatomy of the Rural Community, and dealt with the patterns of social organization in Walworth County, Wisconsin. In 1919 H. C. Taylor was appointed chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, United States Department of Agriculture. Immediately, through his influence, the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life was created within the Bureau, and Galpin was put in charge. This gave rural sociology a dignified and permanent connection with federal research..."

Research at Mellon Institute. "The scientific work of Mellon Institute during the fiscal year, March 1, 1937, to March 1, 1938, is described in the annual report of the director, Dr. E. R. Weidlein, to the board of trustees, which has just been published," says W. A. Hamor in Science (April 29). "During this period the institute's investigations in pure science were expanded, especially in the fields of biology and medicine, and the research programs of the industrial fellowships were also widened. Throughout the year \$1,062,830 was expended by the institution in conducting pure and applied science research. After describing the scientific studies, he concludes: "During the calendar year 1937, one book, 14 bulletins, 32 research reports and 65 other papers were published. Twenty-two United States patents and 70 foreign patents on fellowship discoveries proceeded to issue. The total contributions to the literature for the 27 years ended December 31, 1937, have been 20 books, 157 bulletins, 776 research papers and 1,182 miscellaneous papers; 630 United States patents were granted during the same period."

Connectors for Timber. Successful Farming (May) in its department, "What Is New in Farming", says: "Metal rings, shear plates, and tooth fastenings for joining timbers together distribute the load on the wood over a broad area with fewer bolts than would otherwise be necessary. Thus smaller timbers can be used to obtain a given joint strength and there is a more equal balance of strength in the different parts of the structure. Developed in Europe, these connectors have recently received extensive investigation by the Forest Products Laboratory. The safe load recommended by the laboratory for a pair of $2\frac{1}{2}$ -inch split rings joined with a $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch bolt in Southern Yellow Pine or Douglas Fir, when bearing parallel to the grain in a 3- by 4-inch piece, is 5,700 pounds. This is approximately equivalent to the safe load that would be carried by 6 $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch bolts, or 63 common 16-penny wire nails. Rings up to 4 inches in diameter can be used in nominal 2-inch material when inserted in one face only. The toothed-ring is more adaptable to lighter members and can be used where power-driven tools are not readily accessible."

Department Free Movies. The following motion pictures will be shown in the Department auditorium, May 10 and 11, at 8:15 P.M.:
 ORCHARD MICE: Bureau of Biological Survey subject, designed to aid in pest control. MATERIAL: One of the best "good will" pictures ever produced without direct advertising; shows what enters into making an automobile. THE NEGRO FARMER: Extension Service subject, designed to stimulate extension work among negro farmers. FLOOD WEATHER: Weather Bureau subject, containing striking shots of Ohio and Potomac River floods of 1937. Offices outside the Administration and South Buildings should give the Division of Motion Pictures a list of persons requesting tickets. Tickets may then be called for at Room 1621 South Building. General distribution for other employees will be on Saturday morning, from 8:45 until 1:30, or until the supply is exhausted. Tickets that will not be used should be returned to Room 1621 before noon of the date for which they are issued.

Moving Bees "The modern motor truck has made it possible to move
Via Highway bees long distances quickly and easily," says an editorial
 in American Bee Journal (May). "Such movement provides
new complications for the officials charged with the enforcement of
disease laws since it is hard to keep in touch with arrivals and departures
of trucks from distant points. Unless more care is used to comply with
all regulations there is danger that rules sufficiently stringent to stop
all movements of bees may be adopted in some cases. In a few cases the
escape of live bees has annoyed people on public highways and caused some
complaint. In other cases the finding of disease in newly imported out-
fits has led to difficulty. We would urge every beekeeper who uses the
highways to move to new locations to use all possible precaution to avoid
annoyance to the public and also to cooperate fully with the inspection
service of the locality to which he goes..."

Northwest A report in the Madison (Wisconsin) Capital Times
Cooperative (April 22) says, despite the recession, Central Co-operative
Record Wholesale, giant supply house for co-operative stores
 throughout the northwest, completed its 20th year by in-
creasing sales a half a million dollars, a gain of 18 percent, according
to its annual report. Net earnings for the year reached \$76,910, the
largest in the organization's 20-year history. The statement, covering
the calendar year 1937, revealed a new high record in sales of \$3,356,550,
an increase of \$510,800 over the previous year. In addition, the co-
operative acquired three new store members, increased its cash surplus by
\$14,000, and its net worth rose to \$313,894. In all of its merchandise
departments Co-operative Wholesale showed substantial gains both in
sales volume and profits earned. Gasoline and oil, clothing, coffee,
bakery products, and general merchandise are supplied by the co-operative
to its 100 member co-operative stores. Co-operative Wholesale made co-
operative history in 1937 in the matter of collections--not a dollar was
lost through bad debts. In 1936 the loss from this cause was only \$538
on sales of nearly \$3,000,000. Co-operative Wholesale's total assets as
reported by its financial statements were \$524,143 at the close of the
year. Its inventory of merchandise and goods on hand totalled \$345,855.

Improvement A survey completed by The National Fertilizer Associa-
of Grassland tion indicates that agricultural research workers are
 realizing the importance of learning more about grassland
improvement. This survey shows that more than 300 experiments are being
carried on by state experiment stations and by the U. S. Department of
Agriculture in 35 states, and that most of these experiments were started
since 1930. The unusually large scope of the investigations under way is
an indication of their probable importance in furnishing adequate informa-
tion to farmers in regard to the best methods of improving pasture and
hay crops. In most of the experiments, the value of lime and fertilizer
is being determined along with several other factors. (American Fertilizer,
April 16.)

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Section 1

May 4, 1938

WORLD TRADE AGREEMENTS An appeal for labor support for the reciprocal trade agreements program was made to John L. Lewis yesterday by Secretary Hull. It has been Mr. Hull's contention that labor as a whole stands to make big gains through the liberalizing of international trade agreements. Support for the Secretary's argument that the trade agreements stimulate business was contained in a summary issued yesterday by the trade agreements inter-departmental committee of trade with Switzerland which showed a large increase last year, the first full calendar year under which the reciprocal trade agreement of 1936 with that country was in operation. Swiss imports from the United States were valued at \$29,000,000 and United States imports from Switzerland at \$26,000,000. (New York Times.)

RAILROAD LOAN BILLS Parallel bills authorizing the relaxation of requirements for loans by the RFC to railroads as a step to stimulate employment were introduced in the Senate and House yesterday by Senator Truman and Representative Steagall, chairman of the House Banking and Currency Committee. The sponsors expected to obtain action despite the prospective adjournment of Congress within a month. The bills were written with the idea of "tiding over" the railroads until legislation of a permanent character could be enacted by the next Congress. (Press.)

SCIENCE MOVIES New developments and discoveries covering many fields of medicine will be unveiled to doctors in Washington and vicinity today and tomorrow at the annual two-day Scientific Assembly of the District Medical Society. Outstanding among the displays to be shown with a series of scientific treatises will be several moving pictures of surgical operations and growth of disease cells. One of the pictures, produced by three Washington physicians, will show living protozoa. (Washington Post.)

REPORT N.Y. FOREST FIRES Twenty-one forest fires in the past twenty-four hours were reported to the Fire Control Bureau of the New York State Conservation Department yesterday. Eight were in the Adirondack and Catskill Forest Preserves. The most serious were near Lackawack, Ulster County, and Indian Lake, Hamilton County, but both these fires were reported under control through efforts of CCC crews and residents. About 350 acres in fifteen counties were burned over. (New York Times.)

Fertilizer
Dollar

"A fertilizer dollar can be stretched," says an editorial in Better Crops With Plant Food (April). "More and more evidence of the economies to be effected in the careful choosing of plant food is coming to light. Important in these investigations is the practicability of using higher analysis fertilizers, and an article by J. J. Skinner, Senior Biochemist, U. S. Department of Agriculture, published in the April issue of the Progressive Farmer, well points out and graphically illustrates instances where substantial savings were obtained from increasing the units of plant food in fertilizers purchased. 'We need to recognize first of all that distribution costs, which include cost of bags, labor, taxes, freight, sales costs, dealer's profit, trucking to the farm, mixing, and a few other items, are practically the same per ton (about \$12) regardless of the fertilizer bought,' Dr. Skinner says. He then goes on to compare prices of low analysis fertilizers with those of higher analysis mixtures, as well as costs of fertilizers made from various sources of plant food, and shows how millions of dollars might be saved on the fertilizer bill of the South...Research and educational work on methods of application of fertilizers together with the possibility of now making high analysis fertilizers with a total concentration of salts no higher than formerly are dispelling the fear of burning. Through experiments conducted by Skinner, Mann, Collins, Batten and Bledsoe in North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia and Georgia, reported in Soil Science, have shown that if the physiological acidity is properly corrected, high analysis fertilizers formulated from high grade chemicals give as good or better yields than the lower analyses. The trend to the use of higher analyses is definitely upward..."

Ohio Roadside
Improvement

"Results of the first two years of 'roadside beautification' (in Ohio) are showing up as the grass starts to grow this spring," says an editorial in Farm and Dairy (April 29). "Instead of the usual raw cut on new Ohio roads, one finds the sides sloped off and covered with a heavy green turf. Steep banks have shrubs starting, and there are trees planted in some places. The strips of road so treated have been beautified indeed, and that alone is enough to pay the cost. But our guess is that over a period of years there will be no extra cost. The savings in road repairing should offset the original cost of planting. Where there are ditches to be cleaned out after every hard rain when a bank has been left bare, the roadside with a grass turf stays put when it rains."

Farm Equipment

Foreign sales of American farm equipment in March were valued at \$7,106,178, a 13 percent gain over March, 1937, according to the Machinery Division of the Department of Commerce. (Press.)

Senate, The Senate received a supplemental estimate of appro-
May 2 piation, fiscal year 1939, of \$500,000 for National Forest
 Protection and Management; ref. Committee on Appropriations
(S. Doc. 174) (p. 7981).

The Senate Committee on Interstate Commerce reported with amendment S. 3502, to protect producers, manufacturers, and consumers from unrevealed presence of substitutes and mixtures in spun, woven, knitted or felted fabrics and garments (S. Rept. 1685) (p. 7982).

House, Considering bills on the consent calendar, the House
May 2 passed the following: H. R. 6830, to prohibit exportation
 of tobacco seed and plants, except for experimental pur-
poses (p. 8025). S. 2221, to facilitate control of soil-erosion and flood damage on lands of the Cacho National Forest, Utah (p. 8025). H.R. 7933, to facilitate control of soil erosion and flood damage on lands of the Cleveland National Forest, Calif. (p. 8026). H. R. 8165, to add lands to the Trinity National Forest, Calif. (p. 8026). H. R. 10193, authorizing detail of civilian employees to temporary duty with the government of American republics or the Philippines (pp. 8029-8033). H. R. 9523, to add lands to the Ochoco National Forest, Oreg. (p. 8037). S. J. Res. 256, to amend the public resolution authorizing appropriations for control of insect and plant pests (pp. 8037-8038). (This joint resolution will now be sent to the President). H. R. 9912, to convey to Alaska land in the Tongass National Forest for a fur farm experiment station (p. 8038). S. 1998, to amend the act to provide for collection and publication of statistics of peanuts by the Department (pp. 8038-8039). H. R. 8177, to create the Alaskan International Highway Commission, to confer with the Canadian Government concerning a proposed highway from Seattle to Fairbanks (pp. 8040-8041).

S. J. Res. 201, for relief of South Carolina farmers whose crops were destroyed by hailstorms, was objected to by Mr. Tabor after brief discussion (p. 8026).

The House passed without amendment S. 2650, to authorize the completion, maintenance, and operation of the Fort Peck project, Montana (pp. 8043-8046). This bill will now be sent to the President.

The House received the President's message on nonopolies and amendments to the anti-trust laws, received by the Senate April 29 (S. Doc. 173) (p. 8030).

Mr. Andresen of Minn. addressed the House in opposition to the present farm relief program (pp. 8047-8051).

House, May 2 (continued)

Mr. Rich had inserted in the Record a list of all new agencies formed in the Federal Government since 1933 (p. 8019).

The Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce will hold a hearing, May 4, on H. R. 9909, wool labeling.

Items in Appendix: Editorial in Shenandoah Herald, Woodstock, Va., April 29, "Conservation of Natural Resources" (p. 8085). Letter from Mr. Nelson to Secretary Wallace and the Secretary's reply, regarding new farm program (pp. 8085-8086).

Bill Approved by the President: S. 2531, use of military reservations for wildlife refuges. Approved April 13, 1938. (Public No. 494, 75th Cong.) (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Handicraft Markets "Roadside markets where Florida farm families, especially the women, have increased outlets for their traditional handicrafts and home products are an innovation which it is hoped will not only offer a subsidiary source of family income but result in revival of many near-lost native handicrafts," says Julia May Sampley, Assistant to Director of State Markets, in Florida Grower (May). "...A trial market; the first producers' handicraft market in the state, opened in Melbourne last November, on the Dixie highway... This market has been the source of revenue not only for citizens of Brevard county, but state-wide as well, during the three months of its operation. Miss Eunice F. Gay, home demonstration agent for Brevard county, is an active member of this market committee, assisting in establishing and maintaining standards of excellence... In Holly Hill an elaborate market is under way. When completed it will be the first market to be erected in Florida especially for this purpose. Here it is hoped not only to have home products for sale, but also to set up work rooms where visitors may see Florida's native products made into attractive articles... The present operating system of these markets is based on yearly membership at a nominal fee. Products are placed in the markets on a consignment basis, and a commission of 20 percent is charged for actual expense of operation. A standards committee passes upon the quality of all products placed on the market and also assists producers to bring their products up to the required standard. The market managers are under bond, and fire and burglary insurance protect the products and market equipment..."

Sugar Record The 1937 Australian sugar crop amounted to 804,000 long tons, or 22,000 more than in 1936, when the previous high record was established, according to a report to the Department of Commerce. The increase was attributed to a greater sugar content of cane from northern areas of Queensland. (Press.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXIX, No. 25

Section 1

May 5, 1938

COTTON AND TOBACCO LEGISLATION The Senate voted yesterday to speed up payment of subsidies on the 1937 cotton crop and to increase by 2 percent the quotas for several types of tobacco under the Crop Control Act. The changes were approved as amendments to a bill providing for reallocation of unused 1938 cotton quotas. The bill, plus amendments, received final Senate approval and was forwarded to the House for action. An amendment by Senator Connally, of Texas, would make possible the early payment of \$130,000,000 which Congress provided as a bonus on the 1937 cotton crop for producers who complied with the 1938 quotas, and would enable the Department of Agriculture to determine compliance with the 1938 program on the basis of acreage planted, instead of waiting until harvest time. (Associated Press.)

TRADE PACTS RAISE EXPORTS In the twelve months ended on April 1 exports by the United States to the sixteen trade-agreement countries increased 68.6 percent over the average for the calendar years 1934 and 1935, compared with an increase of only 50.5 percent in the export trade with non-agreement countries, the Department of Commerce reported yesterday. (Press.)

ORCHIDS VIA PLANE The first orchids from Hawaii ever to be exhibited at the annual orchid show in New York City were delivered yesterday after a 5,200-mile flight from Honolulu. The rare blooms were made up of the choicest varieties grown by fanciers in the territorial islands and were sent on the Philippine Clipper to Alameda, California, and thence by trans-continental planes to New York. The plants, which arrived packed in ice, were in perfect condition. (New York Times.)

U.S. SALES IN MEXICO Mexican purchases of American goods dropped sharply in March as a result of temporary but steep tariff increases imposed by Mexico, the Commerce Department said yesterday. March figures showed that American sales in Mexico totaled \$6,132,000 compared with \$9,404,000 in the same month last year. (Associated Press.)

COTTON BALE A 76-year-old bale of cotton arrived at Memphis yesterday for display in the Cotton Textile Show of the Memphis Cotton Carnival, May 10-14. The old bale, part of the last crop made by Clay County, Mississippi, slaves before they were freed in 1863, was lent to the carnival by the West Point, Mississippi, bank, which owns it. (Associated Press.)

New Uses
for Cotton

"The Cotton Research Foundation of Memphis has called upon the cotton-growing states of the South to contribute a sum equal to only a tiny fraction of one percent of the total value of the crop in normal years to finance another year's scientific quest for new uses and new markets," says Robert Talley in Memphis Commercial Appeal (April 26). "Announcement that a campaign for \$60,000 to continue the work at the Mellon Institute is under way and has already met with gratifying initial success was made by Everett Cook, president of the Cotton Research Foundation and past president of the Memphis Cotton Exchange. The \$60,000 represents the second step in the foundation's five-year program for the benefit of a crop which in normal years is worth \$1,000,000,000. Mathematically the sum sought figures out to only six-thousandths of one percent of the total. 'The response thus far has been most gratifying, many communities having already contributed their quotas and some having actually exceeded them,' Mr. Cook said...In the widespread setup for the campaign, practically all Memphis cotton and banking interests are co-operating..."

Keys to Farm
Ownership

Southern Agriculturist (May) says editorially: "When T. Roy Reid, Regional Director of the Farm Security Administration, delivered the keys to the new, comfortable and convenient--but not expensive--homes (of the Clover Bend (Arkansas) resettlement project) to their future occupants, he said, 'These are not only keys to new houses, but they are keys that can unlock a new vista of opportunity on the farm if you use them wisely.' No more significant utterance could have been made than this statement of Director Reid, for after all possible is said and done by the government and other agencies interested in solving the many-sided tenant problem with its manifold evils, the tenant himself holds the real key to the situation. The key that will unlock the door to home ownership and eradicate the blighting effects of tenantry must consist of an abundance of year round hard work, willingness to make many substantial sacrifices all along the way, determination to make the maximum use of a minimum of resources, and cooperation with the Extension Service and other capable agricultural leadership in making and executing farm plans and programs...This task of wiping out the major evils of farm tenancy is a gigantic one at best, and if the landless man is without the key herein mentioned it will be an impossible task..."

Australian
Survey

A national survey, which will probably take 100 years, is contemplated by the Federal Government of Australia, according to a Canberra report by the Australian Press Bureau. Apart from its important defense aspect, officials say, the proposed survey will involve a review of economic resources, soil erosion, reclassification of soils, water conversion, hydrographic work, cartography and the triangulation of Australia.

Nicaraguan
Products

The United States was the largest purchaser of Nicaraguan products during the first quarter of 1938, buying two-thirds of all of Nicaragua's exports, according to a report from Managua to the New York Times. Nicaragua in turn purchased almost two-thirds of her imports from the United States. Germany, with the barter system, was the second largest buyer and seller.

May 5, 1938

Senate,
May 3

The Senate debated S. 3949, to amend the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 by reapportionment of cotton acreage allotments; the bill was reported with amendments from the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry (pp. 8147, 8181-8182, and 8204-8206). Mr. George offered an amendment to add 2 percent to the flue-cured tobacco quota of each State (p. 8205).

Mr. Connally submitted an amendment to the Agricultural Appropriation Bill for 1939 (H.R.10238), regarding cotton price-adjustment payments for the 1937 cotton crop (pp. 8147-8148).

The Senate agreed to the House amendments to S. 1998, to amend the act to provide for the collection and publication of statistics of peanuts by the Department of Agriculture (p. 8181). This bill will now be sent to the President.

The Senate agreed to the House amendment to S. 2221, to facilitate control of soil erosion and flood damage in Cache National Forest, Utah (p. 8204). This bill will now be sent to the President.

The War Department Civil Functions Appropriation Bill for 1939 (H.R.10291) was made the unfinished business of the Senate but was laid aside temporarily. This bill contains an item of \$7,000,000 to be available to the Department of Agriculture for flood control, \$3,000,000 of which is for preliminary surveys and \$4,000,000 of which is for works and measures (p. 8204).

House,
May 3.

The Committee on Rules reported a rule for the consideration of H. R. 10140, which authorizes appropriations for the Federal Aid Road Act, fiscal years 1940 and 1941 (pp. 8105, 8143).

Mrs. Norton inserted in the Record her letter to the President and his reply, regarding consideration of the wages and hours bill (S. 2475) (p. 8104).

Mr. Scott inserted in the Record the text of H. Res. 473, authorizing investigation of the controversy between the Group Health Association and the District Medical Society, letters he has received from his constituents, and his remarks favoring the resolution (pp. 8101-8103).

Mr. Sumners of Tex. spoke briefly in favor of soil conservation and inserted in the Record a resolution adopted by the Duck Creek Soil Conservation Association, Texas, favoring this work (pp. 8110-8111).

Item in Appendix: Extension of remarks of Mr. Massingale, "Why it is necessary to make a new authorization for roads at this session of Congress" (pp. 8242-8243).

Bill Approved by the President: H.J.Res.573, authorizing payment of certain salaries and purchases without competitive bidding for the New York World's Fair, 1939. Approved April 29, 1938. (Public Resolution No. 90, 75th Congress.) (Prepared by Office of Budget & Finance.)

Education
in Science

"The problem of dispelling general ignorance with respect to science is one which of course interests all of those who have for years been doing what they could to bring about a better appreciation of what science is and what it tries to accomplish," says an editorial in Industrial and Engineering Chemistry (May). "The growing news value of authentic science stories really underlies the several efforts that have been made to meet this need...The results are apparent in the everyday newspaper, whether it be published in the metropolitan area or in a remote county seat. In this connection it is noteworthy that the Pulitzer Prize for 1936 in the field of reporting was shared by five writers of science news. Today the average citizen through what he reads and hears, as well as from daily contacts with modern inventions born of scientific research, is much better acquainted with the practical aspects of mathematics, physics, chemistry, and biology than could have been dreamed of at the beginning of the century. No doubt as the discoveries have multiplied and new theories have been advanced to explain observed phenomena, the work of the newspaper has been cut out for it and the popularization in accurate stories of what the science of today means has become more and more difficult..."

Standards
for Trucks

Standard specifications, backbone of the cooperative movement which recently has been gaining a noticeable foothold in American buying and selling, have been extended by the cooperatives from simple consumer goods to such large-scale production items as tractors and lubricating oils. The Indiana Farm Bureau Cooperative Association, Inc., of Indianapolis, with a membership of approximately 100,000 farmer members, has developed standard specifications for a tractor which uses a well-known standard truck motor, and a body built for the cooperative according to its own specifications. The tractor is built with five speeds so as to be adaptable to both field and road work, and has speeds varying from one mile to 45 miles an hour. It has rubber tires, lights, and battery. (Industrial Standardization, May.)

Virginia Lamb
Improvement

"Particular attention is called to our regular feature, 'The Voice of V.P.I.,' contributed this month by Kenneth E. Litton, Assistant Extension Animal Husbandman of that Institution," says an editorial in the May issue of Southern Planter. "Mr. Litton is one of the best known livestock specialists in this part of the country. His reputation is based on his record. He has been the chief exponent of the 'Virginia Lamb Improvement Program' that has revolutionized market lamb production in the Old Dominion...His broad recommendations for improving the Virginia lamb crop have gradually become a regular part of the management program on most of the best sheep farms of the State...C. F. Graham, Washington county, Virginia, is typical of thousands of small sheepmen who have followed Mr. Litton's lamb improvement program. Last year Mr. Graham sold \$20.07 worth of lambs and wool from each of his 9 ewes--a total of \$180.63 from his little flock..."

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXIX, No. 26

Section 1

May 6, 1938

RFC LOANS TO RAILROADS

An amendment to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation Act broadening the power of the RFC to make loans to railroads was reported favorably yesterday to the Senate by its Banking and Currency Committee. The affirmation followed a brief hearing at which Jesse Jones, chairman of the RFC, was the only witness. This bill, introduced by Senator Truman, is the first result on Capitol Hill of the report as to what should be done toward economic rehabilitation of the railroads, and submitted to President Roosevelt several weeks ago by Chairman Splawn and Commissioners Eastman and Mahaffie of the Interstate Commerce Commission. (Press.)

COTTON LOAN LEGISLATION

The Senate approved and sent to the House yesterday a bill providing that Government agencies must obtain a farmer's written consent before moving his cotton which has been placed in storage under Government loans, says an Associated Press report. Senator Bankhead, Alabama, sponsor of the legislation, said it was intended to annul a provision attached to cotton loans made by the Commodity Credit Corporation; under which farmers agreed to reconcentration of loan cotton.

SANCTUARY FOR MARTENS

Alaska soon will become in effect a sanctuary for one of the North American mammals threatened with extinction. New hunting and trapping regulations published recently provide a closed season throughout the Territory on the marten. The regulations, signed by Secretary of Agriculture H. A. Wallace, will take effect in the near future. Dr. Ira N. Gabrielson, chief of the United States Biological Survey, has advocated a five-year breathing spell for martens throughout the United States in order to prevent their extermination. (Washington Post.)

MICROCOCCUS TETRAGENUS

A possible clue to the cause of epidemics of such diseases as diphtheria, influenza, cholera and yellow fever was indicated yesterday at Atlantic City, in a report on the activities of a small organism known as micrococcus tetrigenus. This germ has turned itself into fifteen distinct forms during a four-year period of observation and further study of it may lead to discovery of the reason the germs of some contagious ailments suddenly change their nature, produce epidemics and then revert to their original structure, according to Dr. Hobart A. Reimann, professor of Medicine at Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, who spoke before the Association of American Physicians. (New York Times.)

Ownership Aids "Surveys prove that tenantry and one-crop farming go
Balanced together and that owner-operating encourages a balanced
Farming farming system," says an editorial in Farm and Ranch (May).

"Dr. J. T. Sanders, former head of the Agricultural Economics Department of the Oklahoma A. and M. College, states that 86 percent of tenants are one-crop farmers while only 56 percent of owner-operators are one-crop specialists. It is our observation that owners, either retired farmers or those who have come into possession of farms, either in satisfaction of debt, or purchased as an investment, are too busy with other matters to give the necessary attention to the management of a farm with balanced production with livestock...Many owners lack the necessary knowledge and managerial ability to work with a tenant in any other kind of farming but cotton. They are not farmers to begin with, and they do not have the time or inclination to know what should be done to build up their lands to a profitable basis. Cotton is a major project in the Southwest. It should be produced on most farms in reasonable amount on land that is suited to it. It should be rotated, however, with other crops in order that acre yields of better cotton can be increased. This is not possible when one-crop farming is practiced. The greatest handicap to making agriculture in the South a paying industry is the absentee landlord whose time is taken up with other lines of business. That is one of the reasons why more owner-operated farms are needed."

Turnover in "Cows don't stay long on average dairy farms, judging
Dairy Herds from figures of dairy-herd-improvement-association herds
 in Kansas and Iowa," says D. M. Seath in Successful Farm-
ing (May). "These data, which are probably representative of the better dairy farm herds of the Central and Midwestern United States, show that during 1935 to 1937, inclusive, an average of approximately 30 percent of the cows left the herds each year. In other words, the cows stayed in herds an average of about $3\frac{1}{3}$ years. Obviously some of the cows remained in the herds for a much longer time than this, yet enough left in less than the average time so that, speaking generally, a herd-owner had a new herd every $3\frac{1}{3}$ years. The seriousness of the short time that cows remain in dairy herds is understood when we use a little arithmetic. If $3\frac{1}{3}$ years per cow in the herd means 3 calves (14 months has been found as the average calving interval in the Iowa herds) and half are bulls, then each cow leaves an average of $1\frac{1}{2}$ heifer calves which will grow into possible replacements. Iowa Experiment Station figures show that less than $\frac{2}{3}$ of the heifers born in their herd escape the hazards of disease, accidents, and so on, and finally join the producing herd. The farm herds probably lose about $\frac{1}{3}$ by similar routes, and thus the end result is that a producing cow has 1 offspring to replace her. This explains the difficulty buyers, particularly club members, have in locating heifers in disease-free herds that are practicing intelligent culling..."

Senate, The Senate passed S. 3949, to amend the AAA of 1938
May 4 to reapportion cotton acreage allotments (pp. 8254-8270).
 Section 2, giving the Government a lien on excess cotton
so it can collect the taxes imposed, was withdrawn. Messrs. Bailey,
Bankhead, and other Senators debated the agricultural adjustment pro-
gram (pp. 8263-8270).

The Senate passed the War Department Civil Functions Appropria-
tion Bill for 1939 (H.R.10291) (pp.8270-8275). The items for flood con-
trol activities of the Department of Agriculture remain unchanged. Messrs.
Copeland, Hayden, Thomas of Okla., Sheppard, and Townsend were appointed
Senate conferees on the bill (p. 8275).

The Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry reported with
amendment S. 3510, to repeal section 202 (f) of the AAA of 1938, which
authorizes an allocation of \$1,000,000 to the Commerce Department for
promotion of new foreign markets for farm commodities (S. Rept. 1692)
(p. 8247).

The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations reported without amend-
ment S. J. Res. 289, providing for Government participation in the
Eighth American Scientific Congress in the U. S. in 1940 (S. Rept.1703)
(p. 8247).

The Senate Committee on Public Lands and Surveys reported with
amendments S. 3416, providing for additional lands in the Black Hills
National Forest, Wyo. (S. Rept. 1706) (p. 8247).

The Senate Committee on Education and Labor reported without
amendment S. Res. 265, providing for a study of the cost of medical care
and of means to improve health (S. Rept. 1691) (p. 8246).

The Senate confirmed the nomination of Harry S. Muir to be
regional director, Farm Security Administration (p. 8278).

House, The resolution (H. Res. 471) requesting certain in-
May 4 formation concerning agricultural conservation payments
 was laid on the table, since it "has been furnished in a
letter which accompanies the report" (pp. 8281-8282).

Mr. McGehee spoke in favor of allocating money to the Department
of Commerce for promotion of new foreign markets for farm commodities
(pp. 8288-8290). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Reforestation Seventy-five million young trees, enough to reforest
in Wisconsin 100,000 acres, are growing in Wisconsin's four State nur-
 series, mostly varieties of pine and spruce. Millions are
planted yearly in State forests and State parks; 14,500,000 were planted
in 1937, according to the Wisconsin Conservation News. (Press.)

Frozen Food

Western Canner and Packer (April) prints a paper by Investigations E. M. Chace, Bureau of Chemistry & Soils, Los Angeles.

He says: "Importance the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils attaches to frozen foods is proved by preparations being made for carrying out a program involving three, if not four or five, of its field stations. Change of such magnitude as the present trend toward frozen pack cannot be disregarded by the food industry itself nor by investigators in that field...Of our seven field stations, Los Angeles and Seattle stations installed freezers last year and both have adequate storage facilities on the premises or in nearby commercial plants. Weslaco, Texas, station will be provided with freezing and storage facilities within the next three months. Pullman, Washington, is not now adequately equipped, but has been collaborating with Seattle in freezing fruits and vegetables grown on the new irrigation project at Prosser, Washington. Fundamental work is carried on at headquarters at Washington. One assistant from each of the three laboratories actively engaged in frozen pack are in Washington for three months, studying in the enzyme laboratory...Collaboration will be attempted with the horticulturist's studies on the effect of varietal, cultural, climatic and soil conditions on the yields, composition, flavor, tenderness and storage quality and with the home economist's studies on the methods of preparation of frozen foods for the table, their storage in the home, and buying for quality..."

1937 Farm
Equipment

Value of farm equipment and related products produced during 1937 amounted to \$580,153,796, an increase of 19% over the \$487,273,428 produced in 1936, Department of Commerce reported. The 1937 figure represented an increase of 74% over the \$334,210,281 produced in 1935. The largest item in dollar value produced during the year was tractors, with a listed value of \$268,394,076 compared with \$214,853,968 in the previous year, the report showed. This was followed by harvesting machinery, plows, planting, seeding and fertilizing machinery. (Wall Street Journal, May 5.)

Assistant
Chief, B.D.I.

Ernest Kelly, who has had charge of the Bureau of Dairy Industry's investigations in market-milk problems since 1912, has been named assistant chief of the Bureau. Mr. Kelly, who will be the first assistant chief the Bureau has had, will assist Mr. Reed, ^{chief,} in planning and coordinating the Bureau's research work and in determining its policies. He will continue, however, to serve also as chief of the Division of Market-Milk Investigations.

Wis. Dairy
Standards

Establishment of a division of standards to replace the dairy and food division of the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture and Markets, was announced by Ralph E. Ammon, acting director of the department. Grouped within the division will be the state's cheese graders, dairy inspectors and farm produce inspectors. It is contemplated that eventually each inspector will be assigned the duty of inspecting a product in its progress from the farm to factory to warehouse. (Dairy World, April.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXIX, No. 27

Section 1

May 9, 1938

PLANTINGS UNDER AAA

Secretary Wallace changed the "soil conservation" phase of the farm program Friday to decrease penalties on farmers who overplant "soil-depleting" crops other than cotton, corn, rice and tobacco. The changes were made, the secretary explained, because many farmers had planted wheat, hay, soy beans and other crops before AAA officials were able to determine acreage allotments for individual farms. To avoid penalizing such farmers "too heavily", Wallace said, the reductions in their cash benefit payments will be smaller than announced previously. (Associated Press.)

HOUSE PASSES ROAD BILL

The House approved without a record vote Friday the \$484,000,000 Federal-Aid Highway Bill, authorizing appropriations of \$238,000,000 a year for 1940 and 1941. The measure passed without major amendments after two days of debate in which practically no opposition was voiced against the general purpose of the measure. (New York Times.)

ITALIAN TRADE BILL

A Rome report by the Associated Press says the Foreign Office Friday announced a bill providing a temporary commercial pact with the United States had been sent to Parliament. The action was tantamount to approval. The pact is expected to open the way for negotiations toward a reciprocal trade agreement that would assure each country of most-favored-nation treatment. The old treaty between the countries, signed in 1871, was renounced by mutual consent more than a year ago.

FROZEN FOOD PRODUCTION

Production of "quick frozen" or "frosted" foods is expected to reach a new high level of 480,000,000 pounds in 1938, according to an estimate made public Friday by the Foodstuffs Division of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, on the basis of a survey prepared by C. Roy Munde, chief of the Foodstuffs Division, and Frances C. Porcher. Production rose in 1937 to 273,407,766 pounds, compared with 169,209,000 in 1936. (New York Times.)

FRENCH TARIFF

A general revision of the customs tariff, principally for the purpose of obtaining increased revenue under the provisions of a decree on budgetary affairs, will be undertaken by the French Government, according to a cablegram from the American Commercial Attache in Paris. (New York Times.)

Local Auctions "Small stock farm operators of the Texas Panhandle for Livestock have created their markets at home for the calves from their milk cows and for any other cattle they have to sell," says Lewis T. Nordyke in Farm and Ranch (May 1). "They sell their cattle at local auctions held weekly at various points and receive prices equal to those at major markets the same days. The expense of long hauling or shipping is saved. The largest of the auctions is held at Amarillo. Within two years this auction, started on a 'shoestring,' had developed from a Jersey calf sale to a million dollar a year market. Figures released by Bill Hill, manager of the sale, and Bill Hale, manager of the stockyards where the auction is held, show that in 1937 a total of 44,657 head of cattle were sold at a gross price of \$893,147.77. Despite bad weather in January, 1938, the sale did its largest month's business--the handling of 6,000 head of cattle at \$150,000...Buyers--there are an average of 100 weekly--come from as far away as North Carolina...Although intended to serve the small stock farm operator who seldom has enough cattle to pay him to ship to the major markets, the auctions are attracting ranchers, big buyers, and feeders..."

Finance Review The first issue of the Agricultural Finance Review will be released this month by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, says B.A.E. News (May 2). This publication is to be edited by Norman J. Wall of the Division of Agricultural Finance and will appear semi-annually--in May and November. It is designed to meet the need for periodic information on current developments in the field of agricultural finance. It will be mailed to teachers of finance, agricultural colleges, heads of business schools, libraries, bankers, Federal agencies, and such other agencies and workers as are interested in the subject of agricultural finance. Each issue will cover developments in farm credit, farm insurance, and farm taxation during the preceding 6 months, including changes in the policies and volume of business of lending agencies; research results; and reviews of important publications, together with a bibliography of articles and publications of interest to those following developments in agricultural finance.

Artificial Breeding Breeder's Gazette (May) reports that "the Holstein-Friesian Association of New Jersey has set up an artificial breeding society to distribute the proven sireship of N.J.E.S. Sir Mutual Ormsby Jewel Alice. American animal husbandmen have been slow to develop artificial insemination, but the startling advance of veterinary science the world around promises to make the livestock breeder no less advanced than the plant improver. Just vision what the organization of artificial breeding societies will mean in the upbuilding of our national herd. The influence of tried sires can be multiplied a hundred fold."

May 9, 1938

Senate, Mr. Barkley obtained unanimous consent for Appropriations Committee to report Agricultural Appropriation Bill May 5 for 1939 (H.R.10238) during recess of Senate (Friday and Saturday) if Committee is ready to do so (p. 8323).

Considering bills on calendar, Senate passed the following: S.3073, to guard public against such deaths as occurred from sale of elixir sulfanilamide (p. 8326). H.R.9415, to amend Civilian Conservation Corps Act to permit appointment of project assistants and discharge of enrollees prior to expiration of their enrollment (pp. 8330-8331). This bill will now be sent to the President. S. J. Res. 284, authorizing Government participation in Third Pan American Highway Conference (pp. 8350-8351). S. 3836, relating to securing written consent for reconcentration of cotton under section 383 (b) of the AAA of 1938 (p. 8355). S. 3882, amending the act authorizing collection of cotton statistics by requiring record of bales ginned by counties (p. 8355). S. 3894, to convey to Alaska land for use as far-farm experiment station (p. 8358). S. J. Res. 289, to provide for Government participation in Eighth American Scientific Congress in the U.S. in 1940 (p. 8367). S. 3416, to add lands to Black Hills National Forest, Wyo. (p. 8368). H. R. 6656, making Armistice Day a legal holiday (pp. 8369-8370). This bill will now be sent to the President.

The following bills were passed over after brief discussion: H.R. 5812, to amend Lacey Act, relating to marking packages containing wild animals and birds, so as to require nothing on outside except names of consignor and consignee (p. 8327). S. 3548, to amend Civil Service Retirement Act to permit allowance of credit for service without deposit of applicable percentage deduction (p. 8330). S. 3804, authorizing temporary detail of U.S. employees to governments of American republics and Philippines (pp. 8351-8352).

Committee on Public Lands and Surveys reported following bills:(pp. 8322-8323): S. Res. 274, extending time for submittal of report of investigation of domestic potash industry (without amendment). S. 3890, to extend provisions of act of June 8, 1906, "For preservation of American antiquities" (with amendments). H.R.7534, to withdraw land in Cleveland National Forest, Calif. from entry under mining laws (without amendment) (S. Rept. 1717). H.R.8203, for inclusion of lands in Kaniksu National Forest, Wash. (without amendment). (S. Rept. 1718). H.R.7688, to authorize addition of lands to Modoc, Shasta, and Lassen National Forests, Calif. (with amendment) (S. Rept. 1721). H. R. 7690, to authorize addition of lands to Plumas, Tahoe, and Lassen National Forests, Calif. (with amendment) (S. Rept. 1723). H.R.7689, to authorize addition of lands to Shasta and Klamath National Forests, Calif. (with amendment) (S. Rept. 1722).

The Committee on Agriculture and Forestry reported following bills: H.R.6830, to prohibit exportation of tobacco seed and plants, except for experimental purposes (with amendment). H.R.5685, to facilitate control of soil erosion and flood damage in Angeles National Forest, Calif. (with amendments) (S. Rept. 1724).

Senate, May 5 (continued)

Mr. Nye inserted in Record a letter from Department of Agriculture in answer to his question, "Why is our wheat market on the down trend and why has the Canadian market been . . . over ours . . . ?" (pp. 8380-8381).

The Senate recessed until May 9.

House, The House began debate on H.R.10140, authorizing
May 5 appropriations for Federal-aid highway construction, fiscal
 years 1940 and 1941 (pp. 8387-8416).

The Committee on Agriculture reported without amendment the following bills: H.R.10379, to facilitate control of soil erosion and flood damage in Cleveland National Forest, Calif. (H.Rept.2297). H.R.10482, to prohibit unauthorized use of name and insignia of 4-H clubs (H.Rept.2298).

House, The House- passed H.R.10140, authorizing appropria-
May 6 tions for Federal Aid Highway Act, fiscal years 1940 and
 1941 (pp. 8458-8464). The following amendments were
agreed to: By Mr. Dimond: Increasing authorization for forest highways
in Alaska from \$400,000 per annum to \$500,000 per annum (pp. 8441-8444,
8463). By Mr. Coffee (amended by Mr. Eberharter): Striking out section
12 of the bill, which denies Federal aid to States which permit diversion
of taxes on gasoline automobiles, etc., to purposes other than highway
construction, etc. (p. 8450-8456). As passed the House, this bill
authorizes the following appropriations for each of years 1940 and 1941:
Regular Federal aid, \$125,000,000; secondary and feeder roads, \$25,000,000;
elimination of grade crossings, \$50,000,000; forest roads and trails,
\$14,000,000; public-lands highways, \$2,500,000; national park roads and
trails, \$7,500,000; national parkways, \$10,000,000; Indian reservation
roads, \$4,000,000; total \$238,000,000. During debate on this bill
Mr. Creal spoke in favor of refunding taxes collected under the Kerr-
Smith Tobacco Act (pp. 8444-8445).

The Committee on Agriculture reported without amendment H.R.10530,
to extend for 2 additional years the $3\frac{1}{2}$ -percent interest rate on certain
Federal land-bank loans, and to provide for a 4-percent interest rate on
Land Bank Commissioner's loans until July 1, 1940. (H.Rept.2308) (p.8468).

The Committee on Public Lands reported without amendment H.R.9428,
to authorize additions to the Sequoia National Forest, Calif. (H.Rept.
2301) (p. 8468).

Items in Appendix: Extension of remarks of Mr. Teigan, "Why the
Farmers are Insolvent" (pp. 8476-8477). Radio address of Mr. Chandler,
May 5, "King Cotton and His Carnival" (pp. 8482-8483). Extension of re-
marks of Mr. Murdock of Ariz. on the roads authorization bill (p. 8487).

The Senate was not in session. Its next meeting is today.

(Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXIX, No. 28

Section 1

May 10, 1938

SENATE PASSES APPROPRIATION

The Senate approved yesterday the 1939 Agriculture Department Appropriation Bill appropriating \$758,572,820 of new money, and also giving authority to spend \$188,105,000 of unexpended funds appropriated last year. The measure exceeds this year's appropriation by \$68,115,612 and is \$38,138,898 above the budget estimates. The largest item in the bill is \$500,000,000 for soil conservation payments under the farm aid program. Others are \$125,000,000 for federal-aid highways, \$20,000,000 for secondary or feeder roads, \$40,000,000 for grade crossing elimination, and \$2,500,000 for roads in government reservations. The Senate added \$45,367,296 to the House bill, including a \$10,000,000 increase to \$25,000,000 for the farm tenancy program and a \$12,500,000 increase in the land utilization and marginal land retirement program. (New York Times.)

WINNIPEG GRAIN TRADING REPORT

An Ottawa report by the Associated Press says free marketing and the continuance of the futures trading system of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange were recommended by Justice W. F. A. Turgeon in his report on grain and grain marketing, presented yesterday in the House of Commons by W. D. Euler, Trade Minister. The report is the result of an investigation extending over more than a year.

MEXICAN TRADE REGISTER

In a move to stimulate exports by compiling information relating to this phase of its foreign trade, the National Foreign Trade Commission of Mexico has issued a call to Mexican exporters to register their names and other information, according to a report from Mexico City made public yesterday by the Department of Commerce. The exporters have been requested to file their bank references, a list of the articles which they export, the associations with which they are affiliated and to indicate the cooperation and services desired from the government's foreign service in order to facilitate their export trade. (Press.)

PHOSPHATES

The first full-scale tests of the efficiency of production of calcium metaphosphate from rock phosphate and phosphorus have shown the operation to be both successful and profitable, speakers revealed at the annual meeting of the Chemical Engineers Council yesterday. (New York Times.)

Banking for John M. Graham, president of the National City Bank,
Farmers Rome, Georgia, writing on "How to Build Farm Business", in
Banking (May) says in part: "We decided on the general
policy (in agricultural loans) of making a condition in the granting of
a loan that food and feed crops must be grown sufficient for the needs of
the farm. We publish each year, before the planting season, an advertise-
ment in our local newspaper calling attention to this condition. A most
important item having to do with farmer financing is that of financial
and operating statements--having the farmer review in a signed statement
his operations of the previous year, acres to different crops and the
yield, and the program for the coming year in acres and estimated yields.
Then there should follow the listing of assets and liabilities. Not so
many farmers in this section keep records of their operations. Consequent-
ly such a statement is enlightening to them and certainly enables the
banker to proceed more intelligently. Furthermore, farmers do not over-
look the fact that they have signed the statement as a basis for credit."

Canned Cheese "Cheese distribution should undergo many changes as
in Portions the result of a new method of preparing American Cheddar
cheese for the market," says Food Industries (May). "This
method should increase the consumption of cheese, because for the first
time it will make available natural American Cheddar cheese prepared in
4 and 8 oz. individually wrapped consumer packages. Further, each indi-
vidual package may now carry the trade brand identity of its maker, permit-
ting the manufacturer of unprocessed cheese effectively to use national
brand advertising...The procedure of curing cheese in valve-vented cans
was investigated by L. A. Rogers, Chief of Research Laboratories, Bureau
of Dairy Industry...Although the 8 to 12 oz. consumer size cans overcame
certain disadvantages of the method of aging the cheese in exposed 5 to
70 lb. cylinders, there still remained disadvantages which the Bureau of
Dairy Industry has continued to study. The Bureau now reports a method
which overcomes most of the remaining difficulties. This method permits
aging in larger sizes of cans than 8 to 12 oz., which also eliminates
evaporation losses and the formation of rind, cuts the cost of packaging.
Curing and aging cheese in cans permits marketing the product in 4, 8 and
12 oz. prints, wrapped and trade branded. The improved method tested by
the Bureau employs the 5-lb. valve-vented can. Twenty 4-oz. prints
wrapped separately can be aged in this 5-lb. can as readily as a 5 lb.
loaf of cheese. This container is not intended as a consumer container,
but one for the retailer who, when he receives it, opens it and removes
the twenty 4-oz. or ten 8-oz. prints and sells them as individually
wrapped and trade branded consumer packages..."

Brazilian A Rio De Janeiro report to the New York Times says
Wage Decree minimum salaries for workers, including farm hands and
domestic servants, went into force recently under a decree
signed by President Getulio Vargas of Brazil. Another decree exempts
workers' homes from all taxes. After dividing the country into thirty-
two regions, a commission must map each region's requirements, living
standards and costs and then recommend minimum salaries. The salaries
will be revised every three years.

Congress, The Senate was not in session. Its next meeting was
May 7 May 9.

Mr. Rankin addressed the House briefly in favor of rural electrification and announced that he intends to offer an amendment to the proposed new relief bill to allocate \$200,000,000 for that purpose.

The Committee on Agriculture reported the following: with amendment, S. 3949, to amend the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, (H. Rept. 2311 (p. 8518)). This bill provides for reapportionment of cotton acreage allotments, increase in quota for flue-cured tobacco, and speeding up the cotton price-adjustment payments; with amendment, S. 3836, relating to securing written consent for the reconcentration of cotton under section 383 (b) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (H. Rept. 2312) (p. 8518); and, without amendment, H.R. 8047, to amend the Meat Inspection Act of 1907 with respect to farmers, retail butchers, and retail dealers (H. Rept. 2310) (p. 8513).

Items in Appendix: Speech of Mr. Robison of Ky. in the House, May 5, "The Federal-Aid Road Bill--Good Roads versus Battleships" (pp. 8520-8522). Letter from officials of the National Grange, National Cooperative Council, and National Cooperative Milk Producers' Federation, opposing the wages and hours bill and listing objections to it (p. 8522). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Trends in W. Russell Tylor, University of Wisconsin, in Social
Rural Social Forces (May) writes on "The Process of Change from Neigh-
Organization borhood to Regional Organization and Its Effect on Rural
Life". In summary, he says in part: "The trends of
social change in rural social organization are unmistakably away from
the neighborhood towards the larger community and regional units of
organization, more particularly towards villages with their trade areas,
and towards the county as an administrative unit. At the same time these
trends need not involve the complete eclipsing of the neighborhood principle in rural community life...The future of rural community organization
would envision a series of interrelated, interdependent and increasingly
coordinated community functions, organized on varying regional scales, depending upon the character of the service and the sustaining power of the
units in question. The small units, neighborhoods and small communities,
need not be eclipsed completely, so much as they would become subordinated
in reference to their functioning in a larger organized whole. Rural and
urban interests will thus become increasingly coordinated and integrated,
albeit on a desirable differential scale, while at the same time the intrinsic merits and advantages of the smaller locality units may be preserved. Instead of remaining crystallized out as isolated weak communities, largely divorced from the manifold currents and services of a larger societal life, such neighborhoods as worthily survive will be those whose functions are an integrated part of a larger regional whole, to the general enrichment of all community life."

Southern Feed Organization Organization of the Southern Association of Feed Control Officials, and the adoption of uniform standards of analysis featured the annual meeting recently of the food, feed, drug, and health officials of the southern central states, says a Biloxi, Mississippi, report in the Northwestern Miller (May 4). Years of preliminary effort toward uniform standards in the South culminated in the adoption of an agreed basis of minimum feed standards. Stressing the need for more general and exhaustive microscopic analysis of feeds, Dr. J. D. Turner, of the Kentucky Experiment Station, declared that chemical analysis of feeds is not sufficient, particularly in the determining of a feed's digestibility and character of ingredients. "It is evident, then," said Dr. Turner, "that microscopy can be of great assistance to chemical analysis. Too much attention is being given to chemical analysis and not enough to the character of the ingredients."

Crop Reporting Anniversary A group of veteran crop reporters has been invited to Washington by Secretary Wallace to take part in a celebration this week of the Seventy-fifth Anniversary of the Government Crop Reporting Service. The Crop Reporting Service was inaugurated in May 1863 by Isaac Newton, first Commissioner of Agriculture, appointed by President Lincoln in 1862. The first crop report--issued in May 1863--was compiled on the basis of returns from less than 2,000 farmers in 21 States; today there are more than 200,000 voluntary reporters submitting crop and livestock schedules regularly to the Department. More than 2,000 women reporters--some in the service for more than 15 years--are on the rolls. W. F. Callander, Chairman of the Crop Reporting Board, says there are many farm families in which there have been three successive generations of crop reporters. The Department in its anniversary celebration plans to inscribe the names of these and of oldest living reporters upon an agricultural service roll of honor.

Vaccine for Poultry Gapes "The live virus vaccine developed by Dr. F. R. Beaudette and C. B. Hudson of the New Jersey Experiment Station, properly prepared and applied when the young birds are six to twelve weeks of age, gives, after five to nine days, lifelong immunity against laryngotracheitis--alias gapes, one of the most destructive diseases of poultry," says R. L. Cochran in Country Home Magazine (May). "The cost is only two and one-half cents a bird. If a qualified veterinarian is not available, you may obtain permission from your state authorities to vaccinate your own flocks. Since gapes spread rapidly, are easily carried from one place to another and all birds are susceptible, don't fail to vaccinate if you have had outbreaks in previous years, or if the disease is in the neighborhood."

Advertising Farm Products Thirty years ago a group of California farmers bought their first full page of advertising, says a San Francisco report by the Associated Press. They advertised oranges in the Des Moines Register. Orange sales increased 50 percent in Iowa that season. Ralph H. Taylor, executive secretary of the California Agricultural Council, recalling the incident, said that forty California farm cooperatives had advertising campaigns this year to aid 70,000 producers.

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXIX, No. 29

Section 1

May 11, 1938

WINTER WHEAT ESTIMATE

A 754,153,000-bushel winter wheat crop, which would be the second largest on record, was forecast yesterday afternoon by the Crop Reporting Board of the Department of Agriculture. Greater by 28,446,000 bushels than the total estimated by the board a month ago, the forecast, based on conditions May 1, indicated not only that moderately low price levels for the grain will continue but also that there will be a huge carryover at the end of the year. For the last ten years the winter wheat crop had averaged 546,396,000 bushels. Last year's total was 685,102,000. Thus the indicated production this year is 69,051,000 bushels more than last year and 207,757,000 above the ten-year average. (Baltimore Sun.)

LOSSES BY FIRE

Preliminary estimates place the losses by fire in the United States during 1937 at a total of \$285,000,000, according to a report by Robert S. Moulton of Boston to the forty-second annual meeting of the National Fire Protection Association yesterday, says an Atlantic City report to the New York Times. The committee on forest fires declared that more than 93 percent of the forest fires in this country were man-made. The rest are caused by lightning. The committee said that more than 24 percent of the fires, which burn each year over forty million acres, were caused by careless smokers.

CANADIAN SPRING GRAINS

A decrease of nearly 1,400,000 acres in the area sown to spring grains in Canada in 1938 was indicated by farmers' intentions as of May 1, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics said yesterday in its first crop report of the present season. The intended area of spring wheat is 24,105,900 acres, compared with 24,851,400 sown in 1937 and 26,646,100 in the peak year, 1932. The indicated decrease in the spring wheat area from last year is 745,500 acres, or 3 percent. The principal decrease will occur in Saskatchewan, while increases are indicated in Manitoba and Alberta. (Canadian Press.)

GOVERNMENT LEAVE ORDER

Approximately 70,000 emergency employees, 13,000 stationed in Washington, D.C., were relieved by President Roosevelt yesterday of the Comptroller General's interpretation of the annual leave and sick-leave rule which should have compelled them to take vacations before June 30, end of the fiscal year. The President's order amends the regulations to permit emergency employees whose posts technically expire at the close of the fiscal year to accumulate their full leave, as is done by civil service employees--providing they continue on their jobs or are placed on other Federal pay rolls without a break in service. (Washington Post.)

Stop Game "Game bootlegging is becoming an unhealthy business,"
Bootlegging says Field & Stream (June). "A month ago we reported the trip to Leavenworth Penitentiary of a Texas roadhouse proprietor found guilty of conspiracy to violate the Migratory Bird Act, and of selling game bird dinners to privileged customers who happened to be 'in the know'. Now comes word that Biological Survey investigators have broken up an even more extensive game bootlegging ring that operated in four other Southern states. More than two score arrests were made in Arkansas, Tennessee, Missouri and Mississippi, and more were scheduled at this writing. The defendants were, for the most part, market gunners or 'customers' agents.' Federal and state officials cracked down at an opportune moment following a detailed investigation which lasted nearly two years. The major evidence against the defendants, most of whom were charged with violation of the Migratory Bird Act, consists of more than 2,000 ducks and quail purchased by the investigators while they posed as 'customers' for bootleg markets in midwestern cities..."

Packaging "When America supplied more than 60 percent of the
of Cotton world's cotton, and produced a desirable staple, it did not seem to make very much difference what kind of a package we delivered this valuable commodity in," says an editorial in Farm and Ranch (May 1). "Today it is making a very material difference. American processors and handlers of cotton have let processors and handlers of cotton in other parts of the world outstrip them in preparing cotton for the market and in delivering it in a presentable and attractive package. No other commodity under similar conditions could be sold at all if it could be obtained elsewhere, or a substitute found, and it is becoming more and more difficult to sell American cotton in competition with growths from other countries. A great deal of the Brazilian crop is handled by the same companies and agencies that have handled American cotton for years, but they handle it differently. High-density presses for gins are manufactured in the United States, but not sold here. They are sold in Brazil and other cotton-producing countries. Foreign bales are fully protected, compressed from 32 to 34 pounds per cubic foot, and take up less room in shipping. The bagging is new and not cut and slashed by every would-be buyer. As a matter of fact, foreign cotton does not pass through as many hands in reaching the consumer as does American cotton, and thus the middle cost is less. We are adept in the manufacture of machinery and bagging. We are providing foreign producers with every facility for doing a good job, and they are using them. We are handling cotton the same old way; but we are going to handle less of it from year to year, unless we take advantage of our own opportunities and produce a desirable staple and market it in the most approved manner."

Iowa 4-Week A new 4-week term for county agents and vocational Summer School agriculture teachers working toward masters' degrees while retaining their positions will be an innovation of the 1938 summer quarter at Iowa State College. The new arrangement, announced by Summer Dean J. E. Foster, will make it necessary for agents and

teachers to attend college only 4 days during each week, from Tuesday through Friday. A maximum of four credits will be allowed. Under the new plan, as much work will be required per credit as during the regular 6- or 12-week session. Students will take two of the three graduate subjects offered, which are agricultural finance, soil conservation, and vocational education, each subject requiring 6 hours of class work per week. A 6-week course with a larger variety of subjects and following the same 4-days-a-week plan will also be offered. Both the 4- and 6-week courses will begin June 14. (Extension Service Review, May.)

Senate,

May 9

The Senate passed the Agricultural Appropriation Bill for 1939 (H.R.10238) (pp. 8539-8553 and 8557-8567). All committee amendments, as printed in the bill as reported to the Senate, were agreed to, except as follows: The \$65,000 item under "National forest protection and management", for administration of lands transferred to the Forest Service from the Resettlement Administration and the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, was restored (pp. 8561-8567). A proviso under "Fruit and vegetable crops and diseases", providing that \$20,000 of this appropriation for investigation of methods of precooling fruit and vegetables in Texas, was agreed to (p. 8567). An amendment designed to speed up cotton price-adjustment payments was agreed to (p. 8552). This is the same provision inserted as an amendment to S.3949 (amending the A.A.Act), which passed the Senate May 4. The "Interchange of appropriations" item was restored (p. 8552). The proviso regarding the salary of the Director of Finance was restored (p. 8552). The proviso that \$25,000 of the "Water facilities . . ." appropriation may be spent in the District of Columbia was moved to a position immediately following "\$500,000" (p. 8551). The proviso limiting the size of projects constructed under "Water facilities" was amended to read as follows: "That not to exceed \$50,000 of this appropriation shall be available for expenditure for any one project designed in whole or in part to benefit lands by the irrigation thereof and all project facilities and appurtenances which depend for their utility in whole or in part upon each other or upon any common facility shall be deemed one project, and the authority contained in said Act shall not be deemed to authorize the construction of any one project not in accord with this limitation" (p.8551). Messrs. Russell, Bilbo, and other Senators discussed the item for regional research laboratories (pp. 8549-8550 and 8557-8560). Messrs. Russell and Vandenberg discussed the bill in general, and Mr. Vandenberg inserted in the Record a table showing appropriations for the Department (by years) from 1862 to 1937 (pp. 8541-8542). Mr. Russell announced that a supplemental estimate is being prepared for control of insect pests and plant diseases and that it will be in the form of a joint resolution and will not be incorporated in the deficiency bill (pp. 8552-8553). The bill was reported from the Senate Committee on Appropriations on May 7, during recess of the Senate (S. Rept. 1727) (p. 8525).

House,

May 9

Mr. Cochran inserted in the Record correspondence with the Chicago Live Stock Exchange regarding the charge that the Civilian Conservation Corps is using imported canned meats (pp. 8573-8574).

House, May 9 (continued)

The House received the report of the Greater Texas and Pan American Exposition Commission (H.Doc.622); ref. Committee on Foreign Affairs (p. 8607).

The House received a supplemental estimate of \$50,000,000 for administrative expenses of various agencies in connection with the relief program, fiscal year 1939 (H. Doc. 626) (p. 8607).

Items in Appendix: Speech by Mr. Hook in the House, May 6, on the Federal Aid Road Act (p. 8616). Extension of remarks of Mr. Murdock of Utah, favoring the reorganization bill (pp. 8617-8620). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

"Character Loan" for Farm Youth Cal S. Ward, regional Farm Security Administration director for North Dakota, South Dakota, Kansas and Nebraska, announced recently the first loans to farm youths from the co-operative division of the FSA for establishment of a co-operative dairy improvement association. Mr. Ward said 14 farm youths in Burt county, Nebraska, took the lead nationally in obtaining \$2,500 in standard rehabilitation loans for organizing the Burt County Dairy Improvement Co-operative Association. "As far as I know," Mr. Ward said, "it is the first time federal funds have been made available to boys to purchase foundation dairy stock purely on a character basis." Individual loans, made to the boys through their fathers, ranged from \$65 to \$275 in Burt county, Mr. Ward said. They were made for the purpose of purchasing 24 purebred dairy heifers. In each instance \$10 goes for association memberships and participation rights, including sire and inspection service. The loans are repayable over a four-year period. (Omaha World Herald, April 30.)

Safety With Inflammables "The U. S. Department of Agriculture has revised its Farmers' Bulletin 1678 on 'Safe Use and Storage of Gasoline and Kerosene On the Farm'," says an editorial in Wyoming Stockman-Farmer (May). "There is information in the bulletin which no user of these inflammable liquids should be without. Gasoline and kerosene fires cause a loss of approximately \$6,000,000 a year on the farms of the United States, according to the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils. They are sixth among the causes of farm fires and are responsible for five to seven percent of the total loss each year. Ignorance and disregard of the explosion hazard of gasoline and kerosene are responsible for most of these fires, says the bulletin. The vapor of gasoline is so highly explosive that it has been called 'liquid dynamite'. It is dangerous to use gasoline for dry cleaning in the home. It may explode from even a tiny spark of static electricity produced by rubbing the clothing being cleaned. Altho not so inflammable as gasoline, kerosene also gives off vapors which may be easily ignited. Neither should be used to start a fire in the house."

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXIX, No. 30

Section 1

May 12, 1938

FHA WILL INSURE FARM MORTGAGES Mortgages on farm properties will be insured by the Federal Housing Administration beginning May 16, Stewart MacDonald, Administrator, announced yesterday. Rules and regulations covering these loans, authorized by amendments to the National Housing Act passed in February, have been prepared and are available to applicants. Institutions approved by the FHA as mortgagees include banks, building and loan associations, life insurance companies, mortgage companies, and other lending agencies. Individuals may obtain FHA-insured mortgage loans to repair existing farm houses or farm buildings or to construct new houses or buildings. They may borrow to refinance existing mortgages so long as at least 15 percent of the loan proceeds is applied to materials and labor in construction or repair work. (New York Times.)

TAX BILL The conference report on the 1938 Revenue bill, designed to raise more than \$5,300,000,000 in taxes, was approved late yesterday by the House. It now goes to the President for his signature. (Press.)

FLOOD CONTROL PROGRAM A \$375,000,000 flood control program cutting present requirements for local financial participation by 70 percent received approval of the House Flood Control Committee yesterday. The bill appropriates no money, merely authorizing projects. Selection of most projects would be left to the army engineers. Construction would begin upon appropriation of funds by Congress and assurances that interested communities could meet required local contributions for lands, easements and right of ways for dams and reservoirs. (Associated Press.)

OSLO TRADE AGREEMENT An Oslo, Norway, wireless to the New York Times says the trade agreement signed by the Oslo convention States--Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, The Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg--at The Hague in May, 1937, will not be continued in all its provisions beyond July 1, 1938, when it expires. This decision was reached at the conclusion of the three-day conference of the Oslo powers yesterday.

ARGENTINE COTTON CROP A Buenos Aires press report says the second estimate of cotton production issued by the Argentine Department of Agriculture places the figure at 61,000 tons. Although this is somewhat lower than the first estimate it is practically double that of last year which was 31,170 tons and is substantially above the preceding five-year average.

Plains-Prairie Forestry Chronica Botanica (April) in its department, "Plant Science Forum", contains a short article by E. H. Munns, of the Forest Service, on plains-prairie states planting. Describing work at the Lake States Forest Experiment Station, he says: "It was found that seedlings subjected to periodic dryness in the nursery were more drought-resistant in their early years than those watered copiously and continuously, and that within limits the larger the seedlings the better the survival after planting in the field. It was also determined that high surface soil temperatures are often the cause of high mortality and that the source of seed is directly related to the seedling's resistance to cold and drought. Subsoiling in preparing sites for planting under drought conditions increases survival. Methods of hastening the germination of seeds involving both chemical and mechanical means have been developed. These studies are aiding materially in the selection of drought-hardy and long-lived species and in providing planting technic insuring better survival on farm woodlot and shelterbelt planting which has been notable in the past by its many failures...A new drought machine has been recently developed for testing large numbers of plants in the laboratory under controlled conditions. This machine is already speeding up the process of selecting and developing drought-resistant plants suitable for shelterbelt planting in the plains-prairie states. A machine was designed for scarifying black locust seeds following intensive tests of the efficacy of chemical and scarifying methods of hastening germination. The machine will facilitate the handling of large quantities of seed now used extensively in planting for erosion control and in the farm woodlot for fence posts..."

Rural Health The Prairie Farmer (May 7) says that "some 16 organizations in Hancock County, Illinois, are working for improved health. Leaders are the county farm and home bureaus, followed by the county board of supervisors, county medical association, county nurse, Kiwanis club, county ministerial association, county superintendent of schools, Farmers' Union, county rural youth, parent-teachers, county teachers association, county tuberculosis association, American Legion auxiliary, Carthage Woman's club, district dental representative. A movement to ferret out disease, to purify wells, to rear strong children, to make medical aid more available to remote districts--in short, to build health for all--is the aim of this county's health work. And because the county is entirely rural--no town larger than 2,200--the work is of special interest to farm folks...In 1937, the Hancock county program-planning committee recommended that the problem of health was one of major importance in the county...Then followed laying of a general foundation of health education. This was accomplished by two means, (1) distributing health literature to schools and various groups, and (2) conducting the county health week...During the week health talks were given by doctors, health film strips were shown in 22 schools in the county, school children planned health programs, made posters, visited displays, and a movie, 'The New Day,' was shown in movie theaters. Many churches scheduled health talks or film strips.

The biggest single undertaking of the week was the health exhibit set up in Carthage. This graphic presentation which attracted some 800 people, included exhibits showing treatment of pneumonia, diphtheria, venereal diseases, also dental displays, general immunization and WPA sanitation privy project exhibits...Plans now under way are for working the health idea into local 4-H club programs, and for securing 100 percent cooperation in the health activity project outlined by the state 4-H club department..."

Senate, Messrs. Hayden and Truman submitted amendments to
May 10 H. R. 10140, authorizing appropriations for road construction during the fiscal years 1940 and 1941; ref. Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads (p. 8633).

The Committee on Patents reported with amendment H.R.9996, to authorize the registration of certain collective trade-marks (S.Rept. 1770) (p. 8629).

The Committee to audit and Control the Contingent Expenses of the Senate reported without recommendation, S. Res. 241, extending the time for investigation of utilization of water resources of arid and irrigable States (p. 8630).

House, Messrs. Cannon of Mo., Tarver, Umstead, Lambertson,
May 10 and Dirksen were appointed House conferees on the Agri-cultural Appropriation Bill for 1939 (H.R.10238) (p.8671).

The House began debate on the "recovery bill" (H.J.Res.679), which was reported with amendment from the Committee on Appropriations (pp.8707-8708 and 8675-8705) (H. Rept. 2317).

Mr. Woodrum discussed very briefly the item for the Farm Security Administration (p. 8678). Mr. Boileau discussed a provision authorizing "projects for the production of materials for fertilizing soil for distribution to needy farmers" and asked that the word "needy" be stricken out (pp. 8703-8705). The joint resolution carries appropriations totaling \$3,223,425,000, including the following: Highways, roads, and streets, \$425,000,000; Farm Security Administration, \$175,000,000, together with unexpended balances; Public Works Administration, \$965,000,000; construction of public buildings outside D. C., \$25,000,000; and miscellaneous projects, including public buildings, rural electrification, flood control, conservation, insect pests, fertilizing soil, etc., \$575,000,000.

8705)-

The House debated S. 3949, to amend the A.A.Act of 1938 (pp./ 8707). As reported, this bill provides for reapportionment of cotton acreage allotments and increase in the flue-cured tobacco quota. The provision regarding cotton price-adjustment payments was stricken out by the Committee, but is now contained in the Agricultural Appropriation Bill, to which it was added by the Senate. Mr. Andresen of Minn. asked

House, May 10 (continued)

that action be delayed, since he wished to offer an amendment "to eliminate from the provisions of the Act all corn raised and used for feed as silage" (p. 8706).

The Committee on Foreign Affairs reported without amendment S. J. Res. 289, authorizing Government participation in the Eighth American Scientific Congress in the United States in 1940 (H.Rept.2323) (p. 8708). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Bang's Disease In "The Control of Bang's", in Breeder's Gazette
Campaign (May), the author, Charles L. Hill, says in part:

"Public sales have been a great source of spreading the disease. A year ago in Wisconsin, we started to forbid the sale of any animals at public auction except negative animals. Recently regulations applying to all animals that transferred from one herd to another have been strengthened so that transfers are issued only after a negative Bang's disease test has been passed. One of the most serious problems, as I see it from a producer's standpoint, is the almost certain attitude that is going to be taken by public health officials toward the sale of dairy products from Bang's disease-infected cows. Already we have 15 or 20 cities in the state of Wisconsin requiring that all milk must be pasteurized to be sold; or that all milk must be pasteurized except from Bang's disease-free herds; or that all milk sold, whether pasteurized or not, must be from Bang's disease-free herds. I think I can see the day coming when there will be an ever-increasing number of cities that will make such requirements. Then we will have to have a compulsory clean-up program..."

✓ Shade for "Pastures everywhere dry out in the summer, and
Pastures L. R. Neel of Columbia, Tennessee, tried shading them
 with walnut and locust trees," says Country Home Magazine
(May). "Using about a dozen to the acre and trimming them high, he increased the average production of pasture nearly 20 percent over an 11-year period. Walnuts have deep roots that probe their way down deep into the subsoil to tap the reservoirs of water stored up from winter rains. There is no competition for moisture between the roots of walnut trees and the roots of the grasses that grow in the shade. Locusts, like the clovers, are legumes. They help themselves to the nitrogen of the air, passing some of it on to the grass beneath. Grass always grows better under locust trees. The shade itself has a direct effect in protecting the grass (and the livestock) from the scorching effects of the July and August sun. And locust and walnut trees soon grow into value for posts and lumber."

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXIX, No. 31

Section 1

May 13, 1938

STOCKYARDS DECISION

"Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes, speaking before the American Law Institute, said yesterday morning that quasi-judicial agencies of the Government should perform their work with the 'recognized impartiality and independence which is associated with the judicial office'", reports Gerald Griffin in the Baltimore Sun. "Although Mr. Hughes mentioned no specific bureau, some newspaper accounts associated his remarks with the recent case in which the court criticized the procedure followed by the Department of Agriculture in determining commission rates in the Kansas City stockyards.

"Shortly after reading Mr. Hughes' address Secretary Wallace, who previously had expressed the opinion that the court decision had unjustly criticized his administration of the department, issued copies of a letter he sent to members of the Senate recently. In this letter, he asserted that the administrative practice the court assailed already had been changed, that the Chief Justice himself had reversed his position on this matter and that 'actually, the effect (of the decision) is to give the Kansas City commission men and their attorneys \$700,000 of impounded money which rightfully belongs to the farmers.' 'Nearly five years have elapsed since the Kansas City commission men were ordered to lower their rates', Mr. Wallace added, 'and the court finally has decided the case, saying "....we expressed no opinion on the merits"'. "

"Secretary Wallace also said that 'the mistake in hearing procedure--that is, the lack of an examiner's report available to the parties for exception and argument--was committed not by this Administration but by the preceding one.' 'When the Supreme Court', he continued, 'remanded the case to the lower court two years ago Chief Justice Hughes specifically declared that such an examiner's report was not necessary.' In September, 1936, Mr. Wallace noted, the Department of Agriculture voluntarily changed its procedure so as to permit final argument on the examiner's report before the Secretary issues his ruling on commission rate cases and similar matters.

"Thus, the Secretary maintained: 'The effect of the court's decision of April 25, 1938, was not in any sense a rebuke to the present Secretary of Agriculture, because for the past twenty months this department has been doing that which the court itself said two years ago was not necessary and now says is necessary'...."

RELIEF BILL

The House passed the relief bill last night by a vote of 329 to 70. As sent to the Senate, the measure provides for: \$175,000,000, Farm Security Administration; \$100,000,000, Rural Electrification Administration. (Baltimore Sun.)

Chopping
Alfalfa

"A new trend is coming into hay storage, where the alfalfa is to be fed on the farm where produced," says Kansas Farmer (May 7). "It is chopped directly from the windrow, by transportation with sweep rake or hay wagon. A fine-cutting ensilage cutter, or coarse-set roughage mill will handle the job. In Eastern Kansas and Missouri the common method may be to blow the chopped hay into the barn, as long as storage space lasts. Farther west in Kansas, farmers can chop the hay right in the field, by pitching it from the sweep rake, and blow it into circular corn cribbing. Later the cribbing may be removed, unless it is needed as protection against stock. One advantage of this method is its saving in time, not altogether at haying, but when feeding time comes. The feed may be handled with a silage or cob fork. There is much less waste in feeding, and the hay may be placed in silage bunks wherever the farmer likes. This makes feeding in the open fields particularly easy..."

Social
Relations
of Science

Nature (London, April 23) in an editorial on social relations of science, says in part: "It has been suggested that in Great Britain (and the same applies to the other great nations) there should be a Society for the Study of the Social Relations of Science (S.R.S.), with a large individual membership, which should not be confined to men of science, though they should play the principal part in it. The Society should have its council, its regular meetings, its publications, and perhaps its committees for the study of selected questions. It should receive, read, discuss, and, after consideration by suitable referees, publish papers submitted to it; it might arrange symposia on special subjects within its range. Its field of work would inevitably trench on questions that have a political importance, but its attitude towards papers submitted to it should be scientific and objective, and it should not in general express corporate opinions, but leave readers to accept or reject the statements in its publications, according to their view of the credit of the authors. This research method and policy of publication have proved their success in serving science in general, as in the case of the Royal Society, and the many branches of science now organized in separate societies; too numerous to mention; there seems good prospect that a like success would attend the same method and policy applied to this new field..."

Bird Refuges
Enlarged

Six new areas in five States have added more than 86,000 acres to the Federal system of bird refuges within the last 5 months, says the Biological Survey. They are the Lacassine Migratory Waterfowl Refuge in Louisiana; Arkansas Migratory Waterfowl Refuge in Texas; Huron Migratory Bird Refuge in Michigan; the Black Coulee and the Hewitt Lake Migratory Waterfowl Refuges in Montana; and Pea Island Migratory Waterfowl Refuge in North Carolina. An addition of 10,544 acres has also been made to the Lower Souris Migratory Waterfowl Refuge in North Dakota. The new refuges lie among important flyways. They add new breeding grounds in the north, stopping and resting points at strategic points and, on the Gulf of Mexico, places where migratory birds and waterfowl may find additional safe winter grounds.

Senate,
May 11

Messrs. Russell, Hayden, Copeland, Bankhead, Nye,
and McNary were appointed Senate conferees on the Agri-
cultural Appropriation Bill for 1939 (H.R.10238) (p.8746).

The Committee on Foreign Relations reported without amendment H.R.8177, to create an Alaskan International Highway Commission to confer with Canada on a proposed highway from Seattle to Fairbanks (S.Rept. 1782) (p. 8736).

House,
May 11

The House continued debate on the recovery bill (pp. 8777-8804 and 8825-8834). Mr. Hoffman criticized the administration of the A. A. Act (p. 8781). Mr. Jones spoke in favor of amendments to (1) permit the use of \$2,000,000 to pay farmers for cover crops, listing, etc. in extreme drought areas and (2) give farmers on projects in rural areas, whether or not they are on relief, the same eligibility as persons on relief (p. 8782). Mr. Creal said he favors an amendment to use this appropriation to refund the tobacco tax to the farmers (p. 8782). Mr. May said he favors an amendment to use \$5,000,000 for reforestation (pp. 8782-8783). Mr. Beiter spoke in favor of rural rehabilitation (p. 8792).

Bill Approved by the President: S.J.Res.256, amending Public Resolution No. 20, 75th Congress, which authorized appropriations for control of insect pests and plant diseases. Approved May 9, 1938. (Public Resolution No. 91, 75th Congress.) (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Forestry
Message

The Journal of Forestry (May) in an editorial on President Roosevelt's message to Congress, requesting the formation of a committee to study the forest land problem, says: "The President asked that this committee give particular consideration not only to the situation with respect to private forest lands but also to such matters as: (1) The adequacy and effectiveness of present activities in protecting public and private forest lands from fire, insects, and diseases; and of cooperative efforts between the federal government and the states. (2) Other measures, federal and state, which may be necessary and advisable to insure that timber cropping on privately owned forest lands may be conducted as continuous operations, with the productivity of the lands built up against future requirements. (3) The need for extension of federal, state, and community ownership of forest lands, and of planning public management of them. (4) The need for such public regulatory controls as will adequately protect private as well as the broad public interests in all forest lands. (5) Methods and possibilities of employment in forestry work on private and public forest lands, and possibilities of liquidating such public expenditures as are or may be involved."

Crop Reporters Secretary Wallace, in a radio talk, May 12, on the Serve Nation program commemorating 75 years of Federal crop reporting, said: "This radio program today is in honor of a group of farm men and women whose services to agriculture and to the Nation are usually unhonored and unsung. They are known as crop reporters; they are located in every State in the Union; and they include in their ranks more than 200,000 men and women...Month after month, year after year, they report to their State offices and to Washington the facts on farm crops, livestock, and prices. They fill out long and often involved questionnaires. They take time from their regular work to keep the Nation posted on the facts of agriculture. They size up conditions in their own localities with an experienced eye, and they report what they see. Some of them have been doing this for 30, 40, or even 50 years. Here and there are crop reporters whose families have been rendering this service even unto the third generation. All this they have done without hope of personal gain. They receive no salary from the Government, not even the dollar-a-year given to wartime collaborators. They are volunteer crop reporters, as in many cases their fathers and grandfathers were before them, primarily because they are proud to be of service in their communities. By the impartial reporting of facts they serve the cause of truth quite as much as those celebrated newspaper correspondents whose names are known the world over. These 200,000 farm people are the backbone of an organization which has long been unique. Within the past twenty or thirty years probably every major nation has sent representatives to the United States to study our crop reporting system, and some have set up comparable systems..."

Fertilizer D. S. Coltrane, assistant to the Commissioner of Savings Agriculture of North Carolina, stated in a recent address that farmers in that state can save \$2,000,000 a year through adoption of the following plan: (1) Reduce the number of grades from 202 at present to not more than 30; (2) Increase the plant food content of fertilizer from an average of 15 to an average of 20 units on 500,000 of the 1,160,000 tons sold; (3) Entirely eliminate expensive organic nitrogen used in approximately 400,000 tons of mixed fertilizer, and substitute inexpensive inorganic nitrogen for non-acid-forming mixtures; (4) Continually promote soil erosion control practices. (American Fertilizer, April 30.)

Welding "An attractive service to farmers is now being Service offered by a number of welding shops in progressive communities," says Nebraska Farmer (May 7). "By offering to recondition implements that wear rapidly and to store them in readiness for spring, these shops are relieving farmers of several responsibilities. During the winter, while implements are idle and business at the welding shop is not pressing, plowshares, disks, cultivator spades and similar implements are collected and hard-faced by welding on a coating of wear-resistant material to their wearing surfaces. Then they are protected with grease, stored until needed, and delivered to the owner as soon as he needs them after the spring frost is out of the ground..."

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXIX, No. 32

Section 1

May 16, 1938

FLOOD CONTROL PROPOSALS The House Flood Control Committee recommended Saturday that a billion-dollar program be started under its five-year plan of flood control. The committee urged passage of its omnibus bill without amendment as a "truly comprehensive effort definitely to meet the widespread public demand for effective flood control." An appropriation of \$375,000,000 over a five-year period was recommended as a step toward achievement of a comprehensive program. (Associated Press.)

SOVIET RECORD GRAIN CROP "All conditions now appear favorable for the production this year of the biggest grain crop in Russian history, larger than last year's record-breaking harvest, estimated at slightly under 7,000,000 poods (a pood is thirty-six pounds) and thus within sight of the goal of 7,000,000 to 8,000,000 poods set by Joseph Stalin in 1935 for attainment within three or four years," reports Harold Denny in a Moscow wireless to the New York Times. "Last year's bumper crop permitted Russia once more to figure as a grain-exporting country. The Soviet Union exported 257,000,000 rubles worth, compared with 36,000,000 rubles worth in 1936...."

MATANUSKA FARM COLONY A Palmer, Alaska, report by the Associated Press says the Matanuska project's manager has announced that more than half of the 168 families remaining in Alaska's drought refuge colony had contracted to buy the farms on which the government placed them three years ago. The manager, Leo B. Jacobs, disclosed this "first major step toward permanency," as colonists closed their annual celebration of the project's anniversary. He said that the contracts contained the usual conditional sales provisions, with clauses to protect the cooperative plan of the colony. Colonists have thirty years to pay, with annual instalments ranging from \$80 to \$330, depending upon the amount of debt they have incurred in the last three years.

AUSTRALIAN TARIFFS In the tariff debate in the Australian House of Representatives Friday, Sir Henry Gullett, former Minister of Trade and Treaties, said Australian manufacturers were being subjected to competition not only by United Kingdom goods, as was intended by the Ottawa treaty, but also by Canadian goods, and argued that this injustice should not be repeated in the new agreement. He said the trade balance favoring Canada had risen from 1,350,000 pounds sterling in 1932-33 to 4,320,000 pounds in 1935-36. (New York Times.)

Corn Program
and Business

Secretary Wallace, in a radio talk, May 12, on "The Corn Program and What It Means to Business", says in the concluding paragraphs: "To business men, I would point out that so far as farm purchasing power and the farm market are concerned, the farm Act gives farmers an opportunity to protect themselves against another uncontrolled deflation like that of 1932. Under the Act, certain contingencies are to be met with positive steps that are provided for in advance. Without an effective farm program, the farm situation could easily be a drag on business. But with an effective farm program, the farmers can do their share to bring recovery. After all, what the people of the United States really want is to have an abundance of needed goods produced on the farm and in the factory and to have these goods distributed to the people who need them. No one wants scarcity, and least of all the farmers. And yet the farmers wonder why on earth they should be accused of scarcity. They know that last year their production of the 55 leading crops was 6 percent greater than ever before in the history of the United States. At the present moment they know that, if ordinary weather continues, only their own efforts in co-operation with each other and with the government will keep them from being swamped by a wasteful and devastating over-production once more. But as they look around they see that there is scarcity. Although farm production is up, non-farm production is a third less than a year ago. In the last year, farm prices have fallen 25 percent, while nonfarm prices have fallen only 4 percent. City scarcity has been brought about by closed factory doors and smokeless factory chimneys, by the idleness of factory workers who have lost their jobs. The farmers realize the average business man can't help reducing employment when his markets collapse. But they wonder why the business men and the labor leaders do not work out cooperative arrangements among themselves--calling on the government for such aid as they need--to assure balanced abundance of production. The farm policies are abundance policies and the farmers call on the city people to join with them in bringing about that balanced production and distribution which mean abundance for all. Let us rejoice in our abundance and work in sensible fashion to make it a blessing and not a curse. And meantime, the farmers ask both business and labor for wholehearted support to help them succeed with the program that is their contribution toward good business for the nation."

Calif. Plant
Introduction

The Conservation Association of Los Angeles County reports that the movement to popularize new species of trees in southern California was stimulated last month when seedlings representing sixteen exotic species from all parts of the world were received from the Department of Agriculture's plant introduction garden at Chico. The young trees will be kept under expert care at the department's nurseries and at the eucalyptus grove in Rustic Canyon, Santa Monica, where close studies will be made of their adaptability to this region. The sixteen new species augment seeds of *Rhus erosa* (a sumac) and *Acacia detinens* (Zwart Haak) received recently from

Calif. Plant Introduction (continued)

the Union of South Africa. The seeds from South Africa came as the result of a seed exchange made with the government there some years ago when the Department of County Forester and Fire Wardens sent a large quantity of Digger pine seeds. (California Cultivator, May 7.)

Senate, Mr. Pittman asked unanimous consent for consideration of May 12 H.R. 10193, to authorize the detail of civilian employees of the United States to American republics and the Philippines, but after brief discussion Mr. McNary objected (pp. 8871-8872). The Committee on Interstate Commerce reported with amendment S. 3876, to provide that the United States shall pay the applicable commercial rate for the transportation by railroad of any persons or property for the Government or on its behalf (S. Rept. 1791) (p. 8865).

Mr. Wheeler submitted an amendment to the next deficiency appropriation bill, appropriating \$30,000 for conducting fire, silvicultural, and other forest investigations at the Northern Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station (p. 8866).

House, By a vote of 329 to 70 the House passed the recovery bill May 12 (H.J. Res. 679) (pp. 8924-8983). The following amendments were agreed to: By Mr. Boileau: Striking out the word "needy" from the provision for "fertilizing soil for distribution to needy farmers" (p. 8936). By Mr. Jones: Providing that "farmers in actual need of work but who are not on relief rolls shall have the same eligibility for employment on projects in rural areas as persons on such rolls" (pp. 8955-8957 and 8979). By Mr. Woodrum: Authorizing rural electrification loans (pp. 8978-8980). The original amendment provided for additional loans of \$60,000,000, and an amendment to the amendment (by Mr. Rankin) increased the additional authorization to \$100,000,000. The following amendments were rejected: By Mr. Wigglesworth: Decreasing the item for Farm Security Administration from \$175,000,000 to \$155,000,000 (p. 8937). By Mr. Jones: Providing \$2,000,000 "for payments to needy farmers for cover crops, listing, and special practices in extreme drought areas" (p. 8938). By Mr. Boileau: Striking out section 2, which provides that these funds shall last all year (pp. 8944-8945). The following amendments were ruled out of order after discussion: By Mr. Creal: Refund of taxes collected under Kerr-Smith Tobacco Act (pp. 8937-8938). By Mr. Hull: Providing for "loans to farmers to prevent farm mortgage foreclosures" (pp. 8940-8941). By Mr. Hamilton: Providing for refund of processing taxes (pp. 8941-8942).

The House received a supplemental estimate of appropriation for the activities of the Commodity Exchange Administration with regard to wool tops, fiscal year 1939, \$35,000 (H. Doc. 630) (p. 8987).

The House adjourned until May 16. (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.) Item in appendix: Letter from Secretary Wallace to Senator Minton regarding opinion of Supreme Court in Kansas City rate case (pp. 8991-8992).

Congress, The House was not in session. Its next meeting is
May 13 May 16.

Mr. Hayden obtained authority to enable the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads to report H.R. 10140, authorizing appropriations to carry out the Federal Aid Highway Act during the fiscal years 1940 and 1941 (p. 9047).

The Committee on Interstate Commerce reported out without amendment S. 252, to exempt publicly owned interstate highway bridges from local taxation.

The Senate recessed until May 16.

Item in Appendix: Letters from Secretary Wallace to Chief Justice Hughes and to the New York Times pertaining to the opinion of the Supreme Court in the Kansas City Rate Case (pp. 9065-9066). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Civil Service Legislation to set up a permanent Senate committee to
Personnel investigate complaints of civil service employes will be
 drafted by Senator Ellender of Louisiana, and his special
committee authorized to investigate civil service administration. The committee held its first meeting and authorized Ellender to conduct a preliminary study of complaints on hand and to examine Government personnel files, but actual hearings were postponed until the next Congress. (Washington Post.)

California C. H. Purcell, California State Highway Engineer,
Road Design writing in Engineering News-Record (May 12) on "Road Design Stepped Higher" says in part: "It is believed that the California Division of Highways has made within the past six months one of the most important changes in design policy yet adopted. Increase in the last several years of the speed of the average car and of the width and number of fast moving trucks and buses has made it apparent that the 10-ft. traffic lanes, which have been standard in California for many years, are insufficient for safe passing. It is now proposed that a standard 11-ft. lane shall be used on all new construction, making two-lane pavements 22 ft. wide and three-lane pavements 33 ft. wide. In the construction of four-lane pavements the new standards provide that opposing traffic will be divided by a center parting strip between the two inside lanes and that the inside lanes shall be 12 ft. wide and the outside lane 11 ft. wide...Construction practice for divided trafficways: on four-lane highways provides for curbed parting strips of various widths with 4 ft. as the minimum width. The curbs placed along the parting strips are 6 in. high with a moderate sloping face on the pavement side, the batter of this face usually being 4 in. in the 6 in. of height. Several divided roadways with curbed parting strip are now under construction on which a reflecting type of curb is being built; facets or indentations reflect the light from the headlights of the car and increase the visibility of the curb. Installations of both paved and planted dividing strips have been made. Where conditions permit construction of parting strips 20 ft. or more in width, the policy is to omit the curb, replacing it with a treated or surfaced rock shoulder from 2 to 3 ft. wide..."

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Vol. LXIX, No. 33

Section 1

May 17, 1938

FUNDS FOR HIGHWAYS

The Senate yesterday indorsed an authorization of \$314,500,000 for expenditure on roads and highways in the next two years. Together with an anticipated carryover of \$150,000,000, this would make a total of \$464,500,000 available for appropriation in the two-year period. Most of it would be matched dollar for dollar by the States. The bill, passed by the Senate without a record vote, provides for a total outlay of \$472,500,000, including \$8,000,000 for restoration of roads damaged by flood and earthquake, compared with a House measure that contemplated expenditure of \$476,000,000. (Baltimore Sun.)

MORTGAGES DECLINE

The farm mortgage debt of the United States on January 1, 1937, was \$7,254,821,000, a decline of 5.1 per cent from January 1, 1935, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics announced yesterday. The mortgage debt on January 1, 1937, was described as the smallest in seventeen years, the peak having been reached in 1930. The reduction since 1930 was estimated at about \$2,000,000,000. The bureau anticipated that an additional decline would be shown for the past year. (Press.)

COMMODITY PRICES UP

The sharpest advance since last January took place in the general level of wholesale commodity prices last week, according to the index compiled by the National Fertilizer Association. This index in the week ended May 14 rose to 74.4 percent of the 1926-28 average from 74.0 in the week preceding. With the exception of the two weeks immediately preceding, the index last week was at the lowest point reached in the current recession. A year ago the index stood at 87.3, and the 1937 high point was 88.8. Last week's advance in the all-commodity index reflected rising prices for farm products and foods. (Press.)

SOUTHERN FORESTRY

Frank Heyward, Georgia State Forester, said yesterday that private forestry in the South was experiencing a phenomenal growth. Mr. Heyward gave figures on a survey of 192 landowners representing 724,574 acres in twenty-seven Georgia counties. Of the total, forty-five already were forest planters, thirty-one planned to plant trees next fall and all expressed interest in some phase of forestry. "Paper, container board, plastics, rayon and other forms of processed wood appear destined to afford even further outlets for forest products than now exist," Mr. Heyward continued. (Associated Press.)

Volume Tables

Two workers of the Forest Service at Missoula, Montana, for Grasses Tom Lommasson and Chandler Jensen, say, in a letter to Science (May 13): "Foresters have used tree volume tables for decades, but the authors know of no previous effort to develop volume tables for range grasses. There is an urgent need for a mechanical means of determining the degree of grazing of forage plants on national forests and other ranges in the West. The use of such tables offers a very promising aid in range research and in practical range inspection. More than seven hundred samples of sixteen important range grasses have been collected, mainly from Montana national forests. The plants were cut and weighed to show the weight per inch of height, and tables have been prepared for each species. There appears to be very satisfactory correlation between weight and volume. A much greater concentration of weight exists in the lower portions than is generally known among range ecologists. In *Festuca idahoensis* approximately three fourths of the weight is in the lowest one fourth of height, and other species show similar distribution... For determining utilization on grazed ranges a table was devised to convert inches of stubble remaining into percentage of height removed. The latter was then aligned with a percentage of volume utilization scale for the species concerned... In this region, we have developed a partial three-cycle, semi-circular logarithmic scale which converts inches of stubble remaining directly into percentage volume utilization. A full account of this work will be published later."

Paper Food

Containers

The American Journal of Public Health (May) contains a paper by Fred W. Tanner of the University of Illinois and American Can Company on "Microbial Flora of Paper Containers". His conclusions are: "(1) The average bacterial content of paper milk containers for distribution of fluid milk is much lower than the counts which have been reported for some glass bottles. They are usually less than 10 per bottle; (2) The types of bacteria are usually sarcinae, white staphylococci, aerobic spore-forming rods, and non-spore-forming rods. Such organisms are of no sanitary significance; (3) Methods of making paper-board, while not always yielding a sterile product, cause a profound reduction in numbers of viable bacteria; (4) Water-proofing the paper-board with hot paraffin also contributes a marked reduction in viable bacteria; (5) The bottles studied in this investigation were made and sealed in the factory. That part which comes into contact with the milk is not exposed to contamination, for the containers are not opened until they are about to be filled; (6) The paper container studied in this investigation represents a distinct advance in methods for distribution of fluid milk. It obviates collection of used containers from homes of all grades of cleanliness, and prevents re-use of bottles which have been misused." Two other papers on the same subject are "Suitable Paper Wrappers and Containers for Food" and "Disintegration of Paper Board for Bacteriological Examination" by J. R. Sanborn of the New York (Geneva) Experiment Station.

Bindweed Control H. W. Gerlach, author of "Bindweed Control by Clean Cultivation" in Agricultural Engineering (May) says that bindweed or "creeping jenny" is receiving widespread attention in many sections of the country and extensive attempts at eradication have been made at the Hays (Kansas) Experiment Station. There, he says, "clean cultivation, smother crops, sodium chlorate spraying, salting, and close grazing control methods have all been tested...The results of tests definitely indicate that the reasonable cost of the clean-cultivation method makes it thoroughly practical and desirable, particularly for relatively low-value agricultural land. The control method is simple and effective, and can be carried on either with large county-owned outfits, or with equipment as regularly found on the average Great Plains farm. Control by this method is based primarily on starvation of the plant... For efficient control of the plant the cultivation method must be carried on repeatedly throughout the year. Tests were carried on chiefly with duckfoot or blade type cultivators. The blades or sweeps should overlap each other in such a way that a complete shearing action on the roots is obtained. A similar action is impossible with a disk or shovel type cultivator as these act merely as uprooting agents. The most effective

control program starts with an early spring cultivation when plant growth is active....A second type of control program, while less effective than the strict summer fallow program, but one giving good results if consistently followed for 3 years, is a program of six cultivations practiced at two-week intervals and finishing the last one about October 1, and immediately planting wheat behind the duckfoot...."

Dairy Testing Profitable A farmer must keep records if he is to know where his profits and losses are, says Albert Vincent, a Michigan Jersey breeder. He has proof of another opportunity to cash in on continuous cow testing work, for recently the United States Department of Agriculture purchased 31 of his Jerseys for a resettlement farm project in West Virginia. The check for the shipment was \$4,750. Mr. Vincent started to test in D.H.I.A. thirteen years ago. His herd has averaged over 400 lbs. fat during all this time. Every animal in the herd is a descendant of one female purchased when the herd was established. Because he has purchased no females and has ever been alert to the disease problem, he today has one of the most healthy herds in the country. Two things brought the government to the Vincent Farm when they wanted cattle. One was the record of production over a period of years; the other was the reputation for health of the herd. (Hoard's Dairyman, May 10)

Farm Accident Prevention An editorial in California Cultivator (May 7) says: "...The Fireman's Fund Indemnity Company has recently prepared a bulletin in which they classify farm accidents and show how many of them can be avoided by a little more thought and care on the part of both the farmer and his employees. Their study shows that the greater number of agricultural accidents can be grouped into the following five types: Falls of persons, 21 percent; hand handling objects, 20 percent; accidents from farm animals, 10 percent; accidents from farm machinery, 10 percent; accidents from hand tools, 10 percent. The remaining 29 percent of farm accidents result from flying particles, striking against fixed objects, falling objects, poison oak and injuries from chemicals used on farms...Of the loss from all agricultural accidents, the study shows, 25 percent is due to infection resulting from neglected wounds, a loss that is needless because it is easily preventable. Farmers generally have felt that the cost of accident insurance was too high and the studies being made are to help farmers cut down the accident losses which in turn will reduce the cost of carrying insurance. A study of the bulletin indicates that this class of accidents might easily be reduced by half if farmers would use ordinary precaution, not only in seeing that all their farm equipment is in safe working condition, but in cautioning employees and refusing to keep on the payroll those who are inclined to be careless around machinery."

Costa Rican Road Building Intensification of road building in Costa Rica was announced recently by Ricardo Pacheco, the Minister of Public Works, particularly on the section of the Inter-American highway between Cartago and Santa Maria, now under construction with the cooperation of the United States, says a San Jose report to the New York Times. Funds are not available for completion of the Inter-American highway, but it is hoped a way will be found to finance the work.

DAILY DIGEST

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Section 1

May 18, 1938

CANADIAN WHEAT RUST

Wheat rust is nearly conquered, Dr. L. H. Newman, Canadian cerealist, told the House of Commons Agriculture and Colonization Committee. Three to five million bushels of seed of rust-resistant wheats will be available for sowing this year, he said. It will be sown chiefly in Manitoba and eastern Saskatchewan. "After this year there will not be much excuse for sowing varieties susceptible to rust," he said. (Canadian Press.)

EUROPEAN GRAIN NEEDS

Italy, facing the poorest wheat harvest in years, took steps yesterday to increase the percentage of wheat substitutes in flour, according to a Rome report by the Associated Press. In conformity with the program of the Ministry of Corporations, a number of regional wheat councils, including that of Milan, increased from 10 to 20 percent the amount of wheat substitutes to be used in milling.

An Amsterdam wireless to the New York Times reports: large stocks of fodder and cereals, equivalent to a four-month supply, will have to be imported if the Netherland Government's plan to set up a foodstuffs reserve for wartime is to materialize, the newspaper Handelsblad said yesterday. Since the Netherlands depends on imports for most of her cereals, the stocks to be stored, in addition to the usual quantities, will amount to about 1,000,000 tons.

CHEMICAL RESEARCH

California Institute of Technology has received a \$300,000 grant from the Rockefeller Foundation for studying substances that link living and non-living things, Allan C. Balch, president of the board of trustees, announced at the dedication of the \$350,000 Crellin Laboratory of Chemistry, the first of Caltech's new \$2,000,000 group of buildings to be completed. Mr. Balch explained that the latest Rockefeller grant to support the work in organic chemistry resulted from the facilities for such research afforded by the Crellin Laboratory. (New York Times.)

CONSUMPTION OF LUMBER

Estimated national consumption of lumber for the first half of 1938 will be 9,800,000,000 feet, a decrease of 24 percent from the record of the first half of 1937 and 12 percent under the same period of 1936, but appreciably above the first half of the four preceding years, according to the twenty-eighth quarterly report of the Lumber Survey Committee to the Department of Commerce. Of the 1938 first-half estimate, 8,400,000,000 feet are softwoods and 1,400,000,000 feet hardwoods. (Press.)

Rural School Improvement Agricultural Leaders' Digest (May) commenting editorially on the recent report of the Advisory Committee on Education appointed by President Roosevelt, says: "It is of particular interest to extension and experiment station workers and to vocational teachers. It would extend federal grants for educational purposes to elementary schools as federal grants are now made to agriculture, home economics and industrial education in the secondary schools and to the land grant colleges...If the plan of the committee is followed, the bulk of the appropriations would go to the rural sections where educational support is at a disadvantage due to inadequate finances. A provision is included under federal grants to extend library service to the rural areas, which are notoriously short on library facilities for the same reason...Comparing public schools in regional classification, the committee says: 'The least satisfactory schools in the United States are now to be found for the most part in rural areas. The rural schools are better than they were formerly, but under present conditions there is no prospect that the rural areas will be able through their own resources to lessen the wide gap between rural and urban levels of educational service.' There were 10,892,387 rural children in average daily attendance at public schools in 1935-36, and 11,406,380 urban pupils. 'The average expenditure per pupil in average daily attendance in urban schools was \$108.25, and in rural schools \$67.40,' the committee reports. 'The rural figure includes town and village schools as well as those in the open country. Expenditures in the schools of open country areas are much lower, although statistics of average expenditures in such schools are not available.'"

Farm Real Estate After 4 consecutive years of increase, farm real estate values in the United States showed no change during the 12 months ended March 1, 1938, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reports. This is the first year since 1933 in which the average value per acre of farm real estate has not advanced appreciably from the level of the year before. The Bureau's index of farm real estate values on March 1 stood at 85 percent of the 1912 to 1914 level. This index is the same as a year earlier but 4 percent above 1936 and 16 percent above the 1933 low point. The maintenance of farm real estate values during the past year, despite the rather sharp decline in farm prices, was attributed in large part to the increase in cash income received from the larger harvest in 1937.

Gasoline Tax Receipts Gasoline taxes, inspection fees and similar receipts--resulting from gasoline tax laws in the various states--yielded a net revenue of \$761,998,000 in 1937, according to reports of State authorities to the Bureau of Public Roads. Similar receipts in 1936 totalled \$691,420,000. Consumption of gasoline on highways amounted to over 19 billion gallons and increased 7.6 percent over the preceding year. Increases are reported in every State except Nebraska and Tennessee.

Senate, May 16 The Senate passed with amendments H.R. 10140, authorizing appropriations for the Federal Aid Road Act, fiscal years 1940 and 1941, reported May 14, during recess of the Senate (S. Rept. 1794) (pp. 9077, 9080, and 9084-9095). Mr. Hayden spoke in favor of the bill (pp. 9084-9088), and Mr. Bridges spoke in opposition (pp. 9089-9091). Mr. Bridges inserted in the Record the minority views of Mr. Gibson and himself (pp. 9091-9092) and the President's message of November 27, 1937, recommending a reduction in highway appropriations (p. 9092). The following amendments of the committee were agreed to: Reducing the regular Federal aid item from \$125,000,000 to \$75,000,000 for 1940 and from \$125,000,000 to \$115,000,000 for 1941 (p. 9092); Reducing the item for secondary and feeder roads from \$25,000,000 to \$10,000,000 for both years (pp. 9092-9093); Reducing the item for elimination of grade crossings from \$50,000,000 to \$20,000,000 for 1940 and from \$50,000,000 to \$30,000,000 for 1941 (p. 9093); Reducing the item for forest roads and trails from \$14,000,000 to \$10,000,000 for 1940 and from \$14,000,000 to \$13,000,000 for 1941 (p. 9093); Reducing the item for public-lands highways from \$2,500,000 to \$1,000,000 for 1940 and from \$2,500,000 to \$2,000,000 for 1941 (p. 9093); Reducing the item for national park roads and trails from \$7,500,000 to \$5,000,000 for 1941 (p. 9093); Reducing the item for national parkways from \$10,000,000 to \$6,000,000 for 1940 and from \$10,000,000 to \$8,000,000 for 1941 (p. 9093); Reducing the item for Indian reservation roads from \$4,000,000 to \$2,500,000 for 1940 and from \$4,000,000 to \$3,000,000 for 1941 (p. 9093); Inserting a provision to prevent States from diverting taxes on motor vehicles, gasoline, etc., to uses other than highway construction and maintenance (p. 9093); Inserting a provision to provide for the fixing of standards of design in Federal-aid highways (pp. 9093-9094); and Inserting a provision directing the Bureau of Public Roads to investigate and report on the feasibility of building, and the cost of, six transcontinental superhighways (p. 9094).

The Special Committee to Investigate the Production, Transportation, and Marketing of Wool reported S. Res. 278, extending the investigation for the 76th Congress; ref. Committee to Audit and Control Contingent Expenses of the Senate (p. 9077).

House, May 16 Considering bills on the consent calendar, the House passed the following: S. J. Res. 284, authorizing Government participation in the Third Pan American Highway Conference (pp. 9116-9117). This joint resolution will now be sent to the President. H.R. 10379, to facilitate the control of soil erosion and/or flood damage on lands of the Cleveland National Forest, Calif. (p. 9126). H. R. 10482, to prohibit the unauthorized use of the name or insignia of the 4-H Clubs (p. 9126). H. R. 10530, to extend low interest rates on Federal land-bank and Land-Bank Commissioner's loans (p. 9127). S. 842, to provide for an investigation and report of losses resulting from the campaign for eradication of the Mediterranean fruitfly (p. 9128).

House, May 16 (continued)

H. R. 4548, to amend the act making additions to the Absaroka and Gallatin National Forests and improving and extending the winterfeed facilities of the elk, antelope, and other game animals of the Yellowstone National Park (p. 9129). H. R. 8047, amending the Meat Inspection Act of 1907 (p. 9129). H. R. 9848, to require that horses and mules belonging to the United States which have become unfit for service be destroyed or put to pasture (pp. 9118-9119, 9122, and 9131).

Mr. Tarver inserted in the Record tables prepared by the Bureau of Home Economics with statistics on the size of farm families (pp. 9110-9111).

Mr. Lord spoke briefly, favoring H.J.Res. 630, providing for control of tent caterpillars through the Civilian Conservation Corps (p. 9114).

Bill Approved by President: S. 1998, collection and publication of peanut statistics. Approved May 12, 1938, (Public No. 507, 75th Congress). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Uses of Lignin Discovery of a process by which the 1,500,000 tons of lignin discarded every year in the United States can be converted into useful chemicals was announced by Professor Homer Adkins of the University of Wisconsin in a general address on catalysis, at the annual meeting of the American Chemical Society recently. More than 70 percent of lignin, which aside from cellulose is the most important constituent of wood, can now be hydrogenated into four known and simple alcohols and glycols, including wood alcohol, Dr. Adkins reported. Previously, it was pointed out, not more than a slight percentage of any known compound has been obtained from lignin, which constitutes from 20 to 30 percent of the weight of wood. By using copper-chromium oxide as a catalyst, Dr. Adkins in cooperation with Dr. Elwin E. Harris of the United States Forest Products Laboratory, has converted 28 percent of lignin into wood alcohol, or methanol, and almost 50 percent of it into an alcohol and two glycols which are derivatives of propylcyclohexane. "The yield of wood alcohol obtained by the new process is several times as great as obtained by the distillation of wood," Dr. Adkins said. (New York Times.)

Safety on Highways The Nation's problem of traffic control and accident prevention will not be solved until safety is actually "built" into rural and urban highways, according to Murray D. Van Wagoner, Michigan State Highway Commissioner and newly installed president of the American Road Builders Association. With 300 highway engineers attending the roadbuilders' 3-day conference recently, Van Wagoner stressed the importance of considering safety elements in all future highway projects and improvements. "Accident prevention is one of the jobs of the highway engineer," he said. "The building of safety into the highways is unquestionably one of the answers to our appalling traffic accident rate." (Washington Post.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Section 1

May 19, 1938

WALLACE ON LEGISLATIVE POLICY

"Henry A. Wallace yesterday struck sharply at suggestions that the judicial branch of the Government should take over the rate-making and regulatory functions of administrative agencies," reports Gerald Griffin in the Baltimore Sun. "Secretary Wallace at his press conference read a prepared statement: '...An attempt is being made to have the courts invade the administrative field by taking over the rate-making and regulatory functions of administrative agencies.....It is vital that the people understand what is involved in this issue. For farmers, it involves protection of their prices and incomes through measures to regulate the marketing of their products; for labor, protection of wages and working conditions; for consumers, protection against exorbitant rates and prices; and for business, protection of honest competitive enterprise against unfair, monopolistic and destructive trade practices....Even the operation of the Packers and Stockyards Act, which for a time was of considerable value to farmers and consumers, is now impaired when five years of litigation result only in handing over to commission men and lawyers \$700,000 of money which rightfully belongs to farmers....!'"

MATERNITY DEATH RATE

Dr. Martha M. Eliot, assistant chief of the Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor, declared in New York City yesterday that 60 to 75 percent of the maternity deaths in this country were preventable. She particularly denounced conditions in rural areas, where, she said, there are few public health nurses and many sections where there is no medical aid of any kind. Many children are delivered without medical help and often "under most extraordinary circumstances," she remarked. "We are the only civilized nation," she said, "which does not have funds available on a nation-wide basis for the protection of maternity." (New York Times.)

MEXICAN TAX LIFTED

Readjustment of prices on merchandise to Mexico was in prospect yesterday among exporters following word that the Mexican Government has lifted the 3 percent tax on foreign shipments, says a press report in the New York Times. The consulate in New York City was notified by cable yesterday to suspend collection of the tax. Adjustment of prices is planned by scores of exporters because they have been including the tax in the price of their merchandise since the levy was first imposed last September.

Potato
Growing
in N.C.

A Charleston press report in Columbia (S.C.) State (May 5) says that in 1933 the truck experiment station at Charleston began a series of fertilizer experiments with potatoes with the result that last year it recommended to growers that they use fertilizers in which expensive organic materials were replaced with the cheaper mineral materials such as nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia. Many growers adopted the new mixture and found that a saving of about \$5 per acre could be effected with no loss in yield. In fact, several reported higher yields with the new fertilizer. Another practice which seems to be new to most potato growers is the use of limestone or basic slag on land where potatoes are to be planted. It was soon demonstrated that yields could be increased and the danger of magnesium deficiency averted if some form of lime were used on the soils which were too acid for best growth of the potato plant. The band-place-ment fertilizer drill and potato planter was hardly known two or three years ago. Growers who used it this season found that it paid for itself in lowered planting costs and in the speed with which the fertilizer could be applied and the crop planted. Potato growers now dust for late blight only when weather conditions are such that it is apt to appear. This information is made available by the experiment station and results in a considerable saving to growers in years when blight is not expected to occur. A shift is being made from barrels as a container for potatoes to bags and even tubs. Potato digging machines and electrically operated graders may also be included as fairly new in the production of the all important spud, as well as the practice of washing the tubers before they are packed in order to get them to the market in as clean a condition as possible.

Cottonseed for
Work Stock

The American Cotton Grower (May), saying that some southern farmers have had difficulty in feeding cottonseed cake to their work stock, prints a short article by W. P. McFadden of the Mississippi Experiment Station. Reporting on the results of a 3-year test at the Delta Station, he says: "(1) Mules were fed all the cottonseed cake they would eat supplemented with 15 pounds of alfalfa hay and four pounds of oats or corn per 1,000 pounds of live weight for a period of three years without the serious effects usually associated with the heavy feeding of cottonseed meal. (2) The consumption of cottonseed cake by mules was increased 12.5 percent by adding 5 to 7½ pounds of blackstrap molasses per 100 pounds of cake before feeding it. (3) Mules receiving cottonseed cake treated with blackstrap molasses made slightly more gain or maintained their weight better than the mules receiving untreated cake."

Forest Service
Bibliography

A selected bibliography of more than 8,000 references on the management of western ranges, livestock and wild-life has been issued by the Forest Service as Miscellaneous Publication 281. Writings of more than 3,000 authors are indexed in the publication which has been prepared to aid students of range and range livestock management, scientists and others in the study of conditions in the 17 western states and Alaska which comprise the range country, excluding eastern Texas and eastern Oklahoma.

Senate, Messrs. McKellar, Hayden, Bailey, Bulow, and Frazier
 May 17 were appointed Senate conferees on H.R.10140, authorizing
 appropriations for the Federal Aid Road Act, 1940 and 1941
 (p. 9246). Messrs. Cartwright, Warren, Whittington, Wolcott, and Mott
 were appointed House conferees (p. 9190).

The Senate agreed to the House amendments to S. 842, to provide for an investigation and report of losses resulting from the campaign for the eradication of the Mediterranean fruitfly (p. 9235). This bill will now be sent to the President.

Both Houses received the annual report of the Textile Foundation for 1937; ref. Senate Committee on Commerce (p. 9218) and House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce (p. 9215).

House, The House received a supplemental estimate of appro-
 May 17 priation for the Commodity Credit Corporation, fiscal year
 1939, of \$220,000 (H. Doc. 648); ref. Committee on Appro-
 priations (p. 9215).

The Committee on Public Lands reported without amendment S.3416, providing for addition of lands to the Black Hills National Forest, Wyoming (H. Rept. 2363) (p. 9215).

The Committee on Agriculture reported with amendment H.R.9661, to allow possession of migratory game birds lawfully taken (H.Rept.2369) (p. 9216).

(Omitted from yesterday's Digest.) The Committee on Flood Control reported without amendment H.R.10618, authorizing the construction of public works on rivers and harbors for flood control (H.Rept. 2353).

Bills Approved by the President: H. R. 6656, making Armistice Day of each year a legal holiday. Approved May 13, 1938. (Public No. 510, 75th Congress.). H. R. 9912, to convey to Alaska forest land for fur farm experiment station. Approved May 17, 1938. (Public No. 524, 75th Congress). S. 2221, to facilitate the control of soil erosion and flood damage in the Cache National Forest, Utah. Approved May 11, 1938 (Public No. 505, 75th Congress.) (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Canadian An Ottawa report by the Canadian Press says T.A.Crerar,
 Wildlife Resources Minister, stated recently that the Dominion
 Conservation Government had adopted further restrictions to conserve
 the wildlife of the northwest territories in the interests
 of the natives. He said the new restrictions were adopted to meet the
 "serious situation" created by failure of the fur crop and the shortage
 of big game during the 1937-38 season. One of the principal measures to
 be taken is establishment of another game preserve of about 70,000 square
 miles in the district north of the Liard River and extending westward
 from the Mackenzie River to the boundary of the Yukon territory. The new
 game preserve will serve the dual purpose, he said, of providing for hunt-
 ing requirements of the Mackenzie River Indians and protecting the marten,
 the principal fur of the district, the yield of which declined from
 13,300 pelts in 1924 to 5,690 in 1936.

Dried Grass
Storage

In an item on the storage of dried grass, in the Journal of the Ministry of Agriculture (London, May) Charles Crowther, Harper Adams Agricultural College, reports that "dried grass, as it comes fresh from the drier, will contain practically all the carotene of the original grass as cut. During storage, however, a slow destruction (oxidation) of the carotene takes place, the rate of which will vary according to the conditions of storage, and possibly other factors, so that by the time the dried grass is fed to stock its carotene content (and therefore its vitamin value) may have been appreciably reduced. This problem of deterioration in carotene content (and vitamin potency) of green fodders during drying and storage has been studied at various centres in the United States, especially with dried alfalfa and timothy grass. Tests in New Jersey showed a loss of 80 percent of the carotene in alfalfa during the first 24 hours of drying in the field, and similar losses were found elsewhere. Thus in an investigation carried out by the U. S. Department of Agriculture it was found that commercial alfalfa hays frequently contained only one-tenth to one-fifth as much carotene as is ordinarily found in the growing plant... The latest American contribution is contained in a recent Department of Agriculture report dealing with the rate of loss of carotene and of colour from alfalfa, timothy and clover hays and meals during storage..."

Oklahoma
Herbarium

Approximately 600 different species and varieties of flowering plants have been collected in Platt National Park, Oklahoma, to form what nationally recognized botanists describe as one of the most complete herbariums of any park in the nation. The collection includes an oak hybrid, which, before its discovery in this park, was not known to occur anywhere, says a Department of the Interior bulletin. Another rarity is a type of cone flower, botanically described as *Brauneria atrorubens*. This plant apparently had remained unreported to science since the time it is recorded as having first been discovered in 1819 by Thomas Nuttall on his trip to what is now eastern Oklahoma. (Press.)

Farm Buying
Cooperatives

News for Farmer Cooperatives (May) contains "Co-op Buying in Wisconsin" by R. K. Froker, University of Wisconsin, and Joseph G. Knapp, Farm Credit Administration. An editor's note says: "A bulletin on farmers' purchasing associations in Wisconsin, prepared by the authors of this article, has been recently issued by the Cooperative Division of the Farm Credit Administration in cooperation with the University of Wisconsin. This bulletin contains information which should be of interest to managers, directors and members of cooperative purchasing associations in all parts of the United States. Copies of this bulletin may be obtained by writing to the Office of Information, Farm Credit Administration, Washington, D. C."

Puerto Rican
Coffee Imports

The Department of Commerce has announced that imports of coffee from Puerto Rico to the mainland during 1937 totaled 6,019,936 pounds, compared with 3,854,842 the previous year. "The most interesting development in 1937," the department announced, "was the increase in shipments totaling 4,450,000 pounds, from Puerto Rico to continental United States for consumption, rather than for transshipment to European markets." (Press.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Section 1

May 20, 1938

SENATE WOOL INVESTIGATION The largest wool dealers in the country drew sharp criticism yesterday before a special Senate investigating committee for giving "evasive and misleading" replies concerning their marketing practices, says an Associated Press report. E. S. Haskell, of the Agriculture Department, the committee's chief investigator, began a review of a two and a half year investigation of the wool industry after Chairman Adams, (Col.) called the committee into session for its first public hearing to discuss Mr. Haskell's written reports.

ADVISORY COUNCIL Establishment of a national council, composed of representatives of business, labor, agriculture and the scientific fields, to act as a permanent advisory body to the government, was proposed yesterday by Senator Bulkley, chairman of the Committee on Manufactures. Mr. Bulkley introduced in the Senate a resolution to appropriate \$10,000 to finance a study of this proposal, coincident with an announcement that he had invited a group representative of most fields of commercial enterprise to meet in Washington next Wednesday. (New York Times.)

FUNDS FOR WHEAT LOANS A Presidential letter to Congress disclosed yesterday that the Administration intends to lend wheat producers \$120,000,000 to \$172,000,000 on their surplus grain this year. Officials said the purpose of the loans would be to keep surplus wheat off the market and thus prevent demoralization of prices. Mr. Roosevelt sent a request to Speaker Bankhead for \$80,000 to finance Government licensing and supervising of additional facilities for storage of the grain. He asked Congress to include this fund in a supplementary appropriation of \$1,030,000 for the Agriculture Department, \$950,000 of which would be used to control insect pests and plant diseases. (Associated Press.)

MARKETING CONVENTION The American Marketing Association opens its midyear, two-day session today in Washington with a discussion of trends in merchandising and consumer advertising. Leverett S. Lyon, vice president of the Brookings Institution, will preside at the opening session. The convention will meet at 2:30 p.m., under the chairmanship of Ferdinand C. Wheeler, head of the association's Research Committee, to discuss the value of marketing research. Donald E. Montgomery, consumers' counsel for the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, and A.D.H. Kaplan, director of the Urban Study of Consumers Purchases of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, are among the speakers. (Washington Star.)

Antioch and the Farm Antioch (College) Notes for May 1, reports that "five years ago the college began growing hybrid corn and today sells hybrid seed to nearly five hundred farmers a year. Another piece of research concerns the drying of fodder. Alfalfa hay, dried by artificial means immediately after cutting, has been found to retain four times as much carotene as field-cured hay. The carotene content of alfalfa preserved by such methods as the 'dry ice' and molasses and acid cures is also being investigated. A third avenue of inquiry is the effect of these different cures on vitamin A in milk. This work is being done in co-operation with Ohio State University...Supported by the Ohio Farm Bureau and the Good Will Fund, three courses in the co-operative movement serve not only Antioch students but men and women from the surrounding country. Part of Antioch's educational research has been on behalf of rural schools. Through the Antioch School and with the aid of the Keith Fund, some endeavor has been made to work out methods suitable to the one--and two-room school, and to develop materials which shall be inexpensive and yet utilize the rich natural resources of a rural environment."

Hog-Round Buying of Cotton "Farm and Ranch endorses the campaign of various interests and organizations to improve the staple and character of cotton," says the May 15 issue of that periodical. "...It is not a difficult matter to secure the co-operation of a community of farmers in planting a one-type variety of good staple cotton, but it is a different problem to keep them growing better cotton from year to year unless they are paid its true value. The records show that where the hog-round buying system is in vogue, farmers producing a desirable cotton receive only approximately 6 percent of the difference in price paid for their cotton in the central markets. There is no reason to believe that farmers who grow the better cotton will receive any better treatment in any market without classification service. The Classification Act, signed by the President a year ago, instructs the Secretary of Agriculture to provide classification and market news service to all organized groups of farmers co-operating in the improvement of cotton, who request the service in writing. There are approximately 1,000 of these organized groups of farmers in the South at this time and there will be many more before the season is far advanced...The Act, sometimes known as the Smith-Doxey law, is the first legislative effort to break up the hog-round system of buying cotton, and in our opinion, that system of buying cotton is directly responsible for the conditions which many are striving to correct."

Diet Prevents Diseases In 62 Arkansas counties, 7,735 families report the saving of cash, medicine, and doctor bills because they have followed the corrective diets recommended by the Extension Service for pellagra, anaemia, constipation, and high blood pressure. Pellagra, which used to be so prevalent in the delta counties, has been almost wiped out in this area, due to the plentiful gardens and the extension live-at-home program as well as to the educational campaign waged against it, according to Assistant Director C. C. Randall of the Arkansas Extension Service. (Extension Service Review, May.)

Senate, Considering bills on the calendar, the Senate passed
May 18 the following: H.R. 8177, to create the Alaskan International
 Highway Commission to confer with Canada regarding a high-
way from Seattle to Fairbanks (pp. 9286-9287). This bill will now be
sent to the President. S. Res. 274, extending the investigation of the
potash industry (p. 9292). S. Res. 215, providing for an investigation
of existing profit-sharing systems between employers and employees (p. 9305).

The following bills were passed over after brief discussion:
H.R. 9996, to authorize registration of certain collective trade-marks
(pp. 9306-9307). S. 252, to exempt publicly owned interstate highway
bridges from local taxation (pp. 9310-9311).

S. 3876, relating to the transportation by railroad of persons and
property for the United States, was recommitted to the Committee on Inter-
state Commerce at the request of Mr. Wheeler (p. 9310).

Mr. Russell submitted an amendment (printed in the Record) to the
recovery bill (H.J. Res. 679) to appropriate \$212,000,000 for price-adjustment
payments to producers of wheat, cotton, and corn (p. 9275).

House, The House received the following supplemental esti-
May 18 mates (1938 and 1939) for the Department of Agriculture
 (H. Doc. 655); ref. Committee on Appropriations: Control
of insect pests and plant diseases, \$950,000; Administration of Warehouse
Act, \$80,000 (p. 9361).

The Committee on Rules reported a rule for the consideration of the
omnibus flood control bill, H.R. 10618 (pp. 9319-9320). (Prepared by Office
of Budget and Finance.)

Australian "One major task facing Australia's delegates who have
Trade Pacts left to negotiate trade treaties with Great Britain and
 the United States, is presented by the slump in Australian
exports to America, creating once more a heavy trading balance against
this country," says E. N. Armit in Melbourne correspondence to the Wall
Street Journal (May 19). "In the second half of 1937, Australia's trade
with the United States fell away by about 4,500,000 pounds compared with
the corresponding period of 1936. Due to prosperous conditions and
industrial expansion here, imports from the United States rose to
8,955,135 pounds in the six months, while exports were valued at
5,389,271 pounds, an adverse balance of more than 3,500,000 pounds. This
contrasts with a favorable balance of more than 1,000,000 pounds in the
same period of 1936, when the trade diversion measures were operative.
For the full fiscal year 1936-37, Australia had a favorable balance, for
the first time on record, of about 2,000,000 pounds sterling. Imports
were valued at 12,595,343 pounds, and exports 14,992,000 pounds. These
figures included gold bullion, and large purchases of raw wool..."

Ohio Forest

"Business continued bigger and better in nurseries operated by Ohio for the production of forest trees, according to F. W. Dean, extension forester, Ohio State University, who says the supply of most tree varieties has been exhausted," says an editorial in Farm and Dairy (May 13). "Mr. Dean said in 1938 orders exceeded the 11,500,000 trees sent out from the nurseries in 1937. Farmers plant about two-thirds of the total and the rest are set out by 4-H clubs, high school vocational agriculture classes, and the Soil Conservation Service. The forestry specialists declare prices for Ohio trees and lumber still remain at fairly high levels. Walnut and white ash still bring the best prices, and ash trees are becoming so scarce that one manufacturing company expects to make demonstration plantings of ash and have a forester in charge..."

Curly Top

"Finding a tomato resistant to the curly top disease of vegetables still eludes the efforts of plant scientists, but practices that reduce curly top enough to permit successful home production have been well established, according to the Oregon Experiment Station," says the Oregon Farmer (May 12). "The report of studies with curly top is made by B. F. Dana, federal pathologist, (Bureau of Plant Industry), stationed at the college, who carries on most of his field work at the Hermiston branch experiment station where infestation by the leaf hopper which transmits the disease is usually severe. Literally hundreds of varieties of tomato have been tested without any showing sufficient resistance to the disease to make it practical for commercial use. More encouraging results have been obtained with beans, squash and pumpkin. One white combination dry and snap bean and four colored dry bean varieties have been found highly resistant. Several strains of marblehead squash may be grown where the curly top occurs in severe form. Experiments conducted at the branch station at Hermiston have shown that shading reduces the amount of curly top damage in tomatoes. Plants grown under slat frames giving half shade or under frames covered with muslin cloth made good crops when those outside were completely destroyed by the disease. This occurs even where the leaf hoppers are not excluded from the shaded areas. Temporary cloth shades over individual rows of tomatoes will also serve the purpose and may be removed late in the season."

Terracing
Machine

A new ally in the fight against soil erosion, a reversible rotary terracing machine, was given its first public demonstration recently at Iowa State College as a feature of Agricultural Engineering Field Day.. The machine, which was developed at Iowa State, has been undergoing tests during the past month in various parts of the state. These tests have indicated that the new terracing machine is easier to operate and more efficient than most terracing machines. The lifting and reversing mechanisms are completely hydraulic. (Iowa Davenport Democrat, May 10.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXIX, No. 37

Section 1

May 23, 1938

PRESIDENT ON PHOSPHATES

Declaring it is "high time for the Nation to adopt a national policy for the production and conservation of phosphate for the benefit of this and coming generations," President Roosevelt Friday recommended to Congress a study of the supply, domestic consumption and exports of that commodity. In a message stressing that phosphorus is necessary to all forms of life--human, animal and plant--Mr. Roosevelt advised Congress that: The Nation's principal phosphate deposits are in the Rocky Mountain States centering around Idaho, and in Florida and Tennessee, with small deposits in a few other Southern States. So far the principal phosphate production has come from the relatively limited Florida and Tennessee supplies. The recommendations for a study by a joint Senate-House committee indicated the possibility that emphasis may be placed in future on development of the western deposits and that there may be undertaken some revision of the Nation's phosphate export policies. Out of the 17,200,000,000 tons world supply and 7,200,000,000 tons United States reserve of phosphate rock, Idaho is said to have 5,700,000,000 tons of the deposits. (Washington Post.)

KANSAS CITY RATE CASE

"The Federal Government Friday accused the Supreme Court of reversing itself in the Kansas City Stockyards case and requested the court to reconsider its decision of April 25," reports Lewis Wood in the New York Times. "Solicitor General Jackson, filing with the Supreme Court a brief for a rehearing, asserted that the April ruling, delivered by Chief Justice Hughes, was 'directly contrary' to one of 1936. The case had been 'wrongly decided' he said, and added that the 'reversal warrants a rehearing.' At such a rehearing, Mr. Jackson continued, the court should decide what should be done with \$700,000 paid by farmers to livestock commission men at Kansas City since Secretary Wallace lowered commission fees in 1933..."

1937 FARMERS' GROSS INCOME

Farmers' gross income in 1937 exceeded \$10,000,000,000 for the first time in eight years, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics announced Saturday. This figure included Government payments. The figure of \$10,003,000,000 compared with \$9,317,000,000 in 1936 and the low point of \$5,284,000,000 in 1932. The total income from 78 major farm crops increased from \$3,904,000,000 in 1936 to \$4,338,000,000 in 1937, a gain of 11 percent. (Press.)

Future
Forest

"Near Licking, in Texas county (Missouri) the United States Forest Service has 40 acres of Ozark land devoted to tree and shrub production," says Philip Kane in Missouri Ruralist (May 14). "Twenty-eight acres is under irrigation with 18 acres used for tree production. Most of the young trees are used by the Forest Service in its own areas, but thousands of young trees are being sent out to farmers in the state on request by county agents...Five years is a short time in which to develop a nursery. And since 1933 the Licking Nursery has gone through two drouth periods. But experiments with domestic and foreign varieties of trees are being carried on and specimens valuable for reforestation may be found. One of the major purposes of the Licking Nursery is to produce pine for the millions of acres now under Federal control which have been denuded by lumber companies. It will take a half century or more to make Missouri the great pine state it once was. But thousands of acres of sturdy young pine trees are making their bid for life in protected areas. Some day Clark and Gardner forests will make rich returns on the present investment..."

Cottonseed
Meal Tests

"New Mexico Agricultural College steers on May 2 sold at \$10 per cwt. at the Los Angeles Union Stock Yards, setting a new high for 1938," says Bob Hunter in Western Livestock Journal (May 10). "Of greatest interest to cattle feeders, however, was the fact that some of these steers had been fattened on a ration that contained cottonseed meal as the sole concentrate. In fact, the highest daily gain and the cheapest gain was recorded on the pen of steers that was fed on alfalfa hay, cottonseed meal, and corn silage. The feeding period lasted 168 days, and the steers were receiving as high as 15 pounds of cottonseed meal per day toward the end of the period, with no ill effects noted. This is the second year that this college has run experiments using cottonseed meal as the sole concentrate...J. H. Knox, professor of animal husbandry in charge of the experiment, said: 'This experiment was made to test cottonseed meal rations and demonstrate that young cattle can be made choice with no concentrate other than cottonseed meal. We had no sick steers either this year or last. The steers receiving a high cottonseed ration have been most profitable both years.'..."

Lime Service
For Farmers

"Indiana farmers pick up a phone, order a load of lime, and have it delivered and spread on any of their land that may test acid," says Firman E. Bear in Country Home Magazine (May). "More than one hundred truckers in the state are always ready to drive to the nearest grinding plant, load the limestone, bring along a rotating disk spreader and apply the material for \$2.50 a ton. The farmer can watch the operation from his easy chair with the satisfaction of knowing he will get three to four times his money back in the increased crop produced by the limed land."

Senate, The Senate passed S. 252, to exempt publicly owned
May 19 interstate highway bridges from local taxation (pp. 9389-9396).

Both Houses agreed to strike from the independent offices appropriation bill for 1939 (H.R.8837) the provision which would require Senate confirmation of experts and attorneys in the independent establishments whose salaries are \$5,000 or more (pp. 9386 and 9399-9400). This bill will now be sent to the President.

The Committee on Education and Labor reported with amendment S. 3969, to amend the act providing for purchase of supplies and making contracts by the United States (S. Rept. 1810) (p. 9384).

The Senate recessed until May 23.

House, The House passed H. R. 10618, the omnibus flood control bill (pp. 9400-9442). This bill authorizes the following appropriations for the Department of Agriculture for the five-year period ending June 30, 1944: works and measures on watersheds, \$10,000,000; preliminary examinations and surveys, \$5,000,000; and current information service on precipitation, flood forecasts, and flood warnings (Weather Bureau), \$375,000 per annum.

The House received a supplemental estimate of appropriation, \$94,285,404.73, 1938, to provide for the restoration of the capital impairment of the Commodity Credit Corporation (H. Doc. 670); ref. Committee on Appropriations (p. 9446).

The Committee on the Census reported without amendment S. 3882, amending the act authorizing the collection and publication of cotton statistics by requiring a record of bales ginned by counties (H.Rept.2383). (p. 9446).

Congress, The Senate was not in session. Its next meeting is
May 20 May 23.

The House passed S. 3949, to amend the A.A.Act of 1938 (pp. 9488-9497). An amendment by Mr. Andresen of Minn., to except from the provisions of the Act all corn raised for silage, was rejected (pp. 9490-9496). As passed the House, the bill provides for (1) reapportionment of cotton acreage allotments and (2) increase in the tobacco quota. The provision which would permit immediate cotton price-adjustment payments was stricken from the bill by the House committee, but is now included in the Agricultural Appropriation Bill as a Senate amendment.

The House received a message from the President on phosphorus (H.Doc.672) (pp. 9476-9477). Ref. Committee on Rules.

Congress, May 20 (continued)

The House received a communication from the President, transmitting a letter from the Acting Director of the Budget and asking Congress to consider it (H. Doc. 682) (p. 9502). Ref. Committee on Appropriations.

The Committee on Ways and Means reported with amendment H.R.10459, to amend certain provisions of law relative to production of wines, brandy, and fruit spirits (H. Rept. 2413) (p. 9502).

Mr. Nelson spoke briefly on the farm problem and inserted in the Record statements he made previously (pp. 9472-9474).

Mr. Fulmer spoke briefly in favor of H.E.Res.657, to establish a Joint Committee on Forestry, and inserted a copy of the joint resolution and a letter from the Secretary of Agriculture favoring its provisions (pp. 9475-9476).

The House adjourned until May 23. (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Cooperative Forestry Agreements signed between the States of Illinois and Missouri and the Department bring to 47 the number of States cooperating in forestry under the Clarke-McNary law. The territories of Hawaii and Puerto Rico and all States except Arizona now participate. State and private owners of forest land have increased their protection funds by nearly two-thirds during the last three years. The Federal government is contributing slightly over 18 percent of the \$8,000,000 expended this year on cooperative fire protection. Approximately three-fifths of State and privately owned forest land needing protection--about 256,000,000 acres--is under some form of organized fire control, leaving almost entirely unprotected 171 million acres.

Slaughter Cattle Supply Increasing supplies of slaughter cattle are in prospect for the late spring and summer months, says the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Marketings of well-finished, grain fed cattle are expected to increase seasonally during the next 3 or 4 months, and by summer and fall these better grades will be considerably more plentiful than a year earlier. Prices of finished cattle usually advance during the early summer. But such advance is not likely this year, partly because of the current weakness in consumer demand for meats. In the late summer and fall; however, some seasonal advance may occur in prices of the better grades of slaughter cattle.

Rural Sales A more than seasonal increase in daily average sales in April of general merchandise in small towns and rural areas during April is reported by the Commerce Department. Sales were 9.5 percent higher than in March and even after making allowances for seasonal differences the index of sales rose from 105.8 in March to 112.3 in April. Compared with April, 1937, however, this year's sales were 7.5 percent lower. (Associated Press.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXIX, No. 38

Section 1

May 24, 1938

AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

A Rome dispatch by the Associated Press says a world survey of agricultural resources was proposed yesterday to the opening session of the sixteenth assembly of the International Institute of Agriculture by J. Clyde Marquis, United States delegate. "Inquiry among the leaders of many organizations and institutions has disclosed universal agreement that a broad international study of the agricultural resources of the world should be begun at an early date," Marquis told the delegates of more than fifty nations present. The American delegate suggested that his proposed survey should result in preparation of valuable soil, climatic and meteorological, and crop maps of the world. It should include a statistical survey of crop and live-stock production, trade in agricultural products and a study of farm and urban populations and present and potential production and consumption of the world's farm produce, he said.

RFC LOANS, BOND ISSUE

Two sets of figures, illustrating the demands of business concerns for loans and the demand of financial interests for attractive securities on which to make loans, were released yesterday afternoon by Jesse H. Jones, chairman of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. Applications for loans to businesses are being approved by the RFC, Mr. Jones said, in larger volume than ever before. Thus far 444 loans have been approved, totaling \$40,237,000, and 2,868 applications are pending, aggregating \$118,000,000. At the same time, financial interests oversubscribed by a near-record margin an issue of \$25,000,000 Federal Mortgage Association notes which the RFC recently offered for sale. The notes are five-year, two percent securities. For the \$25,000,000 of notes the RFC received approximately 4,500 subscriptions totaling \$1,305,000,000. (Baltimore Sun.)

FOREIGN TRADE WEEK ADDRESS

Alexander V. Dye, director of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce of the Department of Commerce, said last night that trade between the Latin Americans and the United States would weld them in friendship. "Friendship is the offspring of business," he said in an address before the American Foreign Traders Association in observance of National Foreign Trade Week. "Last year our exports to Latin America increased 46 percent above 1936 shipments, which was the largest gain made by any major supplier," Mr. Dye said. "Furthermore, this is a two-way trade, since we normally buy considerably more from Latin America than we sell to that area....." (Associated Press.)

M.C.Hall

Dr. Benjamin Schwartz, of the Bureau of Animal Industry, contributes an obituary on Maurice Crowther Hall, in Science (May 20). Of Dr. Hall, formerly chief of the Zoological Division in the Bureau of Animal Industry, Dr. Schwartz says: "By the death of Dr. Maurice Crowther Hall on May 1, 1938, the National Institute of Health of the U. S. Public Health Service lost a competent research scientist and administrator; parasitologists the world over lost one of their best-known and highly regarded colleagues; and the veterinary profession of the United States lost one of its most distinguished members..."

Canadian

Continuance of the futures trading system of the Grain Report Winnipeg Grain Exchange, and encouragement and development of voluntary producers' cooperative societies, along the lines and methods of the Australian pools, were the leading highlights of the Royal Grain Commission report on its inquiry into the marketing of Canadian grain by Justice W.F.A. Turgeon, says a Winnipeg report in the Northwestern Miller (May 18). Provision of a ready market and a means of shifting the risk of price change were listed as advantages of the future system of marketing. It is pointed out that the speculator is necessary to the proper functioning of the futures market and that there are imperfections that arise when the speculative interest is lacking and when long buying becomes manipulative. Continuing, the report adds: "A lessening of the spread between producer and consumer is brought about in the main by the speculator and at his expense. Experience shows that in the long run speculators, as a body, lose. This final result of speculative loss helps to make business easier for the hedging trader and is, consequently, of benefit to the producer and consumer."

Feed Flavors

"A series of poultry experiments at the Texas Experiment Station indicate that in the future it may be possible to produce flavors to order, not only in poultry meat, but in beef, mutton and pork," says Capper's Farmer (June). "R. M. Sherwood, in charge of the experiments, found that the flavor of broilers was determined largely by the protein supplement used. A scientific method of determining flavor worked out, showed that broilers which got sardine meal as protein produced meat with a flavor that differed widely from that produced by soybean meal. However, one flavor may be favored by one group of consumers while the other would better please another group. A combination of three of the proteins tested gave a neutral flavor unlike those obtained from a single one. Sherwood believes the best combination is 6 pounds each of sardine meal, soybean meal and cottonseed meal, added to 30 pounds of wheat gray shorts, 3 pounds dehydrated alfalfa leaf meal, 1 pound oyster shell and 48 pounds ground corn. This ration was satisfactory except for mineral level, and he is conducting experiments to correct that factor."

Civil Service The Civil Service Commission announces the following
Examinations examinations: unassembled, Principal Poultry Husbandman,
\$5,600; Senior Geneticist (Poultry), \$4,600; Geneticist
(Poultry), \$3,800; Associate Geneticist (Poultry), \$3,200; Assistant;
Geneticist (Poultry), \$2,600; Senior Veterinarian (Poultry Pathology),
\$4,600; Veterinarian (Poultry Pathology), \$3,800; Associate Veterinarian
(Poultry Pathology), \$3,200; Assistant Veterinarian (Poultry Pathology),
\$2,600; Bureau of Animal Industry. Applications must be on file not
later than (a) June 20, if received from States other than those named
in (b), (b) June 23, if received from the following States: Arizona,
California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah,
Washington, Wyoming.

Frozen Home In "Cold Storage Lockers", in Capper's Farmer (June)
Products George A. Montgomery describes a typical locker plant in
Lee County, Illinois, and says in one paragraph: "Women
in Lee County who formerly canned fruits and vegetables grown on the farm
began packing them in glass jars and storing them at freezing temperatures
when the lockers came. Demand for information on freezing foods was so
great that Miss Elizabeth Colean, home demonstration agent, was conducting
a department in local papers to supply it as the season for each item
approached. Locker managers generally require that glass cans be used,
and many towns with new plants have run out of jars the first year be-
cause dozens of women who never had canned vegetables decided to preserve
them frozen."

Lye, a New Stating that the poultry industry loses several
Egg Cleaner million dollars a year from marketing soiled or improperly
cleaned eggs, H. L. Kempster, professor of poultry
husbandry, University of Missouri, says in Country Gentleman (June):
"The Missouri Experiment Station in its attempt to solve this problem
has recently discovered that dirty eggs as taken from the packing plant
and washed in a solution of $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 percent concentrated lye--97 percent
sodium hydroxide--kept as well in cold storage as did naturally clean
eggs of similar quality. When sold they commanded a price equal to that
received for the naturally clean, unwashed eggs. Furthermore, experienced
dealers in eggs could not detect the eggs which had been washed; and cook-
ing tests after eight and ten months storage showed that the dirty eggs
which had been washed in lye water were of equal quality to the clean
eggs stored at the same time. Because of the caustic properties of the
lye solution, rubber gloves should be used when washing the eggs, but
the fact that the soiled eggs can be treated in such a way as to reduce
to a minimum losses due to their becoming dirty, suggests a possible solu-
tion to this vexing problem of how to handle the dirty eggs."

Grasshoppers Canadian farmers expect no relief from grasshoppers
in Canada this summer, says Toronto correspondence to the New York
Times. A survey made by the Department of Agriculture at
Ottawa indicates that the insects in coming months will cover more terri-
tory than ever, some 63,000,000 acres in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.
The pests have entered new areas, have increased in areas where they have
caused most harm, and slightly decreased in areas that have been but
moderately infested. Control work with poison bait will have to be
carried out carefully.

Motor Vehicle Registrations Motor vehicle registrations in 1937 amounted to 29,705,220--an increase of more than 1,539,000 over the preceding year, according to State reports to the Bureau of Public Roads. There were 25,405,728 automobiles, 4,255,296 trucks, and 44,196 busses. Registration receipts totaled \$337,410,000. Other receipts for permits, certificates of title and from miscellaneous sources brought the total to \$399,613,000. Additional payments to States by motor carriers, such as taxes on gross receipts, ton-miles, passenger-miles, and as special license fees and franchise taxes, amounted to \$16,216,000.

World Trade Volume Down In the first quarter of this year world trade lost more in volume than it gained during the previous four quarters, according to figures in the League of Nations monthly statistics bulletin, says a Geneva report in the New York Times. After eight years world trade had climbed back at the end of 1937 to just the level it had reached in volume in 1929. Then in three months it dropped 12 percent. The drop was partly seasonal, but was the steepest and longest quarterly fall in years. The gold value of world trade suffered similarly. At the end of 1937 it had reached its highest point since the depression--although this was only 48 percent of the total in 1929--and in the first quarter of 1938 it fell to 41.3 percent. These falls were due mainly to decreased imports and exports for the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, Canada, Sweden and Japan.

Record Farm Equipment "With farm equipment sales in the United States exceeding the half-billion dollar mark for the first time in history, the 1937 record of \$507,060,444 stands far ahead of any previous sales performance of the industry," says Implement & Tractor (May 14). It indicates that American farmers bought more new equipment last year than ever before in any twelve-month period. The summary of the annual survey of the industry for 1937 by the Bureau of the Census shows that the year was an outstanding one in many respects. The volume of sales in the United States, probably the most significant feature of the 1937 report, was more than \$35,000,000 greater than the previous record of \$471,442,000 established in 1920, and was nearly \$49,000,000 greater than the second best record of \$458,091,248 in 1929.

Interior Dept. Forest Office Operating a new office in the Interior Department, Secretary Ickes has appointed Lee Buck, veteran employe, as director of forests. The plan is to co-ordinate all activities of forest conservation and management of public lands under the jurisdiction of the department. The forest activities under Mr. Buck, it was said, cover lands approximating 15 percent of the total area of continental United States. The new director has been in the Indian Bureau for 26 years, during a great part of which he directed forestry in the Indian reservations. (Washington Star.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXIX, No. 39

Section 1

May 25, 1938

WORLD WHEAT HARVESTS

World wheat harvests may be larger this year than last, says the Bureau of Agricultural Economics in its wheat situation report. This prospect is based upon early indications in Northern Hemisphere countries and expectation of more nearly normal yields this year in Argentina. Wheat plantings in 22 countries which accounted for 89 percent of last year's harvested acreage in the Northern Hemisphere--excluding seedings in Soviet Russia and China--are about 4 percent larger than in 1937. A decrease of about 1,500,000 acres, however, is expected in Australia. If this decrease is not offset by increased seedings in Argentina, the bureau points out that the wheat acreage of the world, excluding Soviet Russia and China, will be about 3 percent above that of 1937. (Washington Star.)

WAGE-HOUR BILL PASSES HOUSE

The revised wage and hour bill was passed by the House late last night by a vote of 314 to 97. The bill calls for a minimum wage, which, beginning at 25 cents an hour in the first year, would increase 5 cents an hour each year until a minimum of 40 cents was attained. Maximum weekly working hours would be established, dropping from forty-four in the first year to forty after the second. The Steering Committee won an important point with defeat of an amendment by Representative Coffee of Kansas to exempt dairy, livestock, poultry and other "seasonal" industries from requirements for overtime payment. The bill now goes to the Senate. (New York Times.)

BRITISH TRADE BALANCE

Great Britain's 22,000,000 pound (\$110,000,000) adverse trade balance with the United States for the first months of 1938 exceeded by 5,000,000 pounds (\$25,000,000) her trade deficit with all other countries, Oliver Stanley, president of the board of trade, told the House of Commons yesterday, according to a London report by the Associated Press. "The effects of such an increase as this are disquieting," Mr. Stanley said, "and certainly must be taken into account in (trade) negotiations now proceeding with the United States." He said international trade was so vital to Britain that the Government "cannot any longer afford to make unilateral gestures in trade matters just as a gesture of good will."

OLD-AGE INSURANCE

The Social Security Board began studies yesterday looking to inclusion of an estimated 16,000,000 additional persons under Federal old-age insurance. The Advisory Council asked the board to provide data by September 15 on possible methods of extending the coverage to domestic servants, farm laborers, and self-employed workers. (Associated Press.)

Rural Repair
Workshops

Farm and Dairy (May 20) says editorially: "In many communities a need exists, says Professor L. M. Roehl of Cornell University, for a rural workshop that is equipped with all the tools and machines needed for general repair work, manned by a trained mechanic...Much repair work requires equipment that few farmers can afford to own. The rural shop can give excellent service with arc or acetylene welding equipment on machinery, tractors, and cars. Many other repair or service jobs can be done by some farmers themselves, but others cannot do them or prefer to have them done well by a skilled man. Mending the harness, shoeing horses, filing, gumming, and setting saws, overhauling the binder, and sharpening the ensilage cutter blades will keep a rural repair man busy, says Professor Roehl. The farm home too, will furnish jobs: sewing machines that need service, vacuum cleaners and washing machines that refuse to work, tools and scissors that need sharpening, and furniture that needs repair..."

Corn-Carrot
Silage for
Color

H. H. Tucker, New Jersey Experiment Station, in Country Gentleman (June) says that work done at the New Jersey Station, in cooperation with the American Guernsey Cattle Club, has shown that corn-carrot silage increases milk color. "...Carrots and corn," he says, "were made into silage. These were chopped together in the proportion of one pound of carrots and tops to three pounds of green corn, and the mixture blown into the silo for storage. Much labor was saved by this method of harvesting and storing carrots. The silage was distributed and packed in the same way as corn silage. The sugar in the carrots and corn was sufficient to produce proper fermentation and to preserve the silage without the addition of molasses or acid. The silo was opened in March and the silage was found to be in perfect condition. It was very palatable, was readily eaten by the cows, and, even though fed with poor-quality hay, maintained milk production and materially increased milk color during the three-week feeding trial. Average color readings increased from 4.95 to 5.23. Carrot-corn silage costs slightly more than corn silage. However, with this new silage it is possible to reduce the labor cost of harvesting carrots, to store carrots successfully, to utilize both carrots and carrot tops for feed and to help maintain milk of high color throughout the year."

WPA Potato
Report

Although the production of potatoes has increased slightly in the past twenty-five years, employment in this industry has steadily declined, the Works Progress Administration reported recently on the basis of a study by its National Research Project. The decline was estimated to have been about 45,000,000 man-hours in the quarter century. Cited were the technological factor, the development of hardier varieties of potatoes, greater resistance to pests and disease and the concentration of crops in most favorable areas. In the heavy potato producing regions of the North and Northeast the labor required to produce a bushel of potatoes declined nearly 20 percent in the twenty-five years, according to the report. (Press.)

Congress, The Senate agreed to the House amendments to S.3949,
May 23 to amend the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, which
 provides for reapportionment of cotton acreage allotments
and increase in the tobacco quota (pp. 9554-9555). This bill will now be
sent to the President.

The Senate began debate on H. J. Res. 679, the recovery bill,
which was reported from the Committee on Appropriations on May 21, during
recess of the Senate (S. Rept. 1812) (pp. 9527, 9532, 9536-9554, and 9556-
9570). Mr. Bilbo submitted an amendment (printed in the Record) which he
intends to propose, to authorize the use of \$4,000,000 for four regional
research laboratories to develop new uses for farm products (pp. 9551-9552).

The Senate received the President's message recommending establish-
ment of a joint committee to study phosphate resources; ref. Committee on
Agriculture and Forestry (H.Doc.672) (pp. 9527-9528).

The Committee on Agriculture and Forestry reported with amendments
S. 3706, to establish and promote the use of standard methods of grading
cottonseed and cottonseed products (S. Rept. 1854) (p. 9530).

The Committee on Banking and Currency reported without amendment
H. R. 10530, to extend for 2 additional years the $3\frac{1}{2}$ -percent interest
rate on certain Federal land-bank loans, and to provide for a 4-percent
interest rate on Land Bank Commissioner's loans until July 1, 1940 (S.Rept.
1853) (p. 9530).

The Committee on Finance reported with amendment S. Con. Res. 36,
to establish a joint congressional committee on taxation of governmental
securities and salaries; ref. Committee to Audit and Control Contingent
Expenses of the Senate (p. 9530).

The House began general debate on the wages and hours bill (S.2475)
(pp. 9578-9628). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Philippine The report of the Joint Preparatory Committee on
Tariff Report Philippine Affairs suggesting a gradual elimination of
 preferences with the United States between 1946, the date
now set for independence, and 1960, was completed and signed recently.
The recommendations provide that instead of assessing the full tariff
duties on each other's products in 1946, the United States and the Philip-
pines will then assess 25 percent of their prevailing rates of duty, and
thereafter annually increase these rates by 5 percent of the prevailing
duties until the complete elimination of preferences is brought about at
the close of the year 1960. (Press.)

Guernsey Cow With a total production of over ten tons of milk, containing close to 1,000 pounds of butterfat, Rancho Cavalier's World Record Priscilla, a ten year old registered Guernsey cow at Brant Rancho, Canoga Park, California, has completed her yearly test which exceeds the present world record by more than 20 pounds of fat in the Roll of Honor class, which requires a calf with the record. Priscilla's production is 20,199.8 pounds of milk and 996.7 pounds of fat, exceeding the former largest record in the west by 60 pounds of fat. She averaged 1,666 pounds (pints) of milk for each twelve months, exceeding her own weight of 1,300 pounds by 28 percent more milk each month than she herself weighed, which indicates the great food-producing ability of a good dairy cow. The record just completed is her fourth, all large records, totaling 15.8 tons of milk and 1.6 tons of fat. Her sire was out of a cow that formerly held the largest record in the west, having produced 935 pounds of fat. She was bred back to her own sire, so that her son (the sire of Priscilla) carried 75 percent of the blood of the great Brookmead's White Face. Priscilla is the twelfth Guernsey to produce over ten tons of milk in a year. Her heifer calf Rancho Bet's Priscilla's was sold recently at the Fourth Annual State Guernsey Sale for \$910, the highest price ever paid for a calf in the west. Her paternal sister sold for \$1550 last year. (Pacific Rural Press, May 14.)

Circular "All fruit growers and dealers should read William C. No. 463 Crow's recent study (Circ. 463, "Wholesale Markets for Fruits and Vegetables in 40 Cities") of the fresh fruit and vegetable industry which he made for the U. S. Department of Agriculture," says Better Fruit (May). "Fruit and vegetable marketing practices, facilities, buildings, etc. have largely failed to keep up with other related developments, he points out in his report. Buying habits of consumers, increased marketing costs, expanding chain store methods of buying and selling and increased use of motor trucks, are included in the study. Some 60 percent of the retail cost of fruits and vegetables is made up of transportation, wholesale and retailing charges, Crow declares. The greater part of marketing costs occur after the produce has reached the market, although transportation charges bulk large, he says. Inefficient practices, improper organization and unsuitable facilities are blamed for the huge handling costs."

Mechanical Corn growers who use mechanical pickers in harvesting Corn Pickers their crop apparently do best with hybrid corn. Tests made at Ohio State University under the supervision of Professor G. W. McCuen have proved that the straighter stalks and the more uniform height of the ears of hybrid corn greatly increase the operating efficiency of the mechanical pickers. In fields of standard varieties of corn, the pickers failed to get from 8 to 10 percent of the ears. The same machines, harvesting hybrid corn, got all but from 0.5 to 1.5 percent of the ears. (Country Home Magazine, June.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Section 1

May 26, 1938

INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADDRESS A warning that "too many nations" are heading straight for disaster through reliance upon policies of economic autarchy and that "the very survival of Western civilization" is dependent in larger measure on the rebuilding of international trade was sounded last night by Cordell Hull, Secretary of State. Mr. Hull spoke by radio just after announcement had been made that he had been chosen for the Captain Robert Dollar Memorial Award because of his contribution to the advancement of the nation's foreign trade. A message from President Roosevelt, praising the observance of Foreign Trade Week and pointing to the seventeen trade agreements negotiated with foreign governments during his administration as strengthening our economic well-being and the foundation of world peace, was read by Mr. Hull in his address. (New York Times.)

COTTON RECORDS Cotton production last year amounted to 18,946,000 bales, the highest on record, the Crop Reporting Board of the Department of Agriculture announced yesterday. The next largest crop, 17,978,000 bales, was in 1926. An all-time high record was established also in the yield to the acre, last year's 266.9 pounds an acre exceeding the former record of 233 pounds an acre in 1898. Bearing on the accuracy of the board's forecasts, the report said that on August 1, 1937, the board predicted production at 17.7 percent below the final figure; on September 1, 15 percent below; on October 1, 7.2 percent below; on November 1, 3.7 percent below; and on December 1, 1.1 percent below. (New York Times.)

TOBACCO INCOME American tobacco growers last year received a cash income of \$318,563,000--the largest since 1919--the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported yesterday. The income compared with \$242,041,000 in 1936, with \$115,219,000 in 1932 and with the record of \$499,885,000 in 1919. The bureau noted as "significant" a greater demand for cigarette or flue-cured, a material increase in the demand for burley and a reduced demand for other tobacco types. (Associated Press.)

FOREIGN TRADE BALANCE The value of merchandise exports from the United States in the first four months of the current year exceeded the value of merchandise imports by \$435,312,000, in contrast with an import balance of \$131,163,000 in the same period of last year, the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce of the Department of Commerce announced yesterday. (New York Times.)

Diversified Combines Tudor Charles, author of "Utility Combines" in Kansas Farmer (May 21) reports that "we are ready to see a big move to use the combine as a mobile-unit separator. Top-ping sorghum is an old story in most communities. But threshing small grain or hulling alfalfa and clover aren't so common. Most companies supply attachments for making necessary changes to handle stationary jobs. Stacking the straw is one of the biggest problems and one which isn't completely solved. Some make-shift straw elevators have been used, and there are cases of blowers having been rigged on the combine to stack the straw...Corn combining has lost popularity, mainly because corn production has become limited in the areas where combining was most practical. Alfalfa is being successfully wind-rowed and combined, and the valuable straw placed in windrows or elevated directly into wagons. Sweet clover long has been combined, and the present scarcity of this crop promises a fairly profitable field for clover seed production for several years. In southeastern Kansas last summer, owners of combines made good wages both for themselves and their combines, harvesting Korean lespedeza seed. In many cases the owners of the crop were willing to give half the seed just for the combining...Combining various grass seeds is another one of the machine uses which should not be ignored in speaking of diversified farming jobs which will make farming profitable..."

Lockers for Frozen Foods In "Refrigerated Lockers Sweep the Corn Belt", in Indiana Farmer's Guide (May 21), the author, Edgar R. Curry, says in part: "With increased interest in and knowledge of frozen foods, farm people are beginning to wonder why they, too, can not hold their fruits and vegetables under refrigeration, instead of canning, the same as meat, and they are doing it, throughout the Corn Belt locker section. In western Iowa, farm patrons last summer prepared their strawberries for freezing, had them packed in paper containers and stored them in their lockers. Some 10,000 quarts were processed and stored for wintertime use. Not a large amount, of course, but these were stored for home use; the commercial angle wasn't touched. In another Iowa town a locker plant operator processed and stored a considerable quantity of sweet corn on the cob, then passed it out, with his compliments, to customers for their Christmas and New Year's dinners. The following spring there came a gratifying response in the form of several bushels of sweet corn to be processed and stored in patrons' lockers. There is much to be learned about temperatures and keeping qualities of fruits and vegetables under refrigeration, but the government experimental stations, individual locker plants and other agencies are working on this and, as the information becomes available, a constantly wider field may be anticipated for the storing of these products by the farmer, direct from his own farm. The possibilities of being able to take care of a farm surplus through a number of such locker plants would appear to be of considerable importance..."

Senate,
May 24

The Senate continued debate on H.J.Res.679, the recovery bill (pp. 9673-9711).

The Committee on Commerce reported with amendments H.R.10618, the omnibus flood control bill (S.Rept.1868) (p.9672).

The Committee on Agriculture and Forestry reported with amendment S.2750, to amend the Packers and Stockyards Act (S.Rept.1867) (p.9672).

House,
May 24

By a vote of 314 to 97, the House passed S. 2475, the wages and hours bill (pp. 9715-9789. The following were among the amendments agreed to: By Mr. Biermann: Exempting employees engaged in "handling, packing, storing, ginning, compressing, pasteurizing, drying, or canning of farm products and in making cheese and butter" (pp. 9741-9747). By Mrs. Norton: Exempting certain seasonal industries, such as canning, for 12 weeks a year (pp. 9758-9763). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Mechanical

The June Farmer's Digest contains "A Plan for Live-Insemination stock Improvement" (reprinted from the Jersey Bulletin) by of Livestock C. M. Long, Purdue University. He says in part: "Through mechanical insemination the breeders of America have an opportunity of establishing the greatest co-operative breeding association in the world...Recently the Bureau of Dairy Industry sent seminal fluid from two of their good dairy sires by airplane to the Argentine. That country is infested in some localities by ticks and mature bulls from this country soon die...We have a disease problem here in the form of Bang's disease and many lesser diseases. There are about twenty-four million dairy cattle in the United States. Ninety-eight percent of them are bred to inferior bulls, many to scrub bulls. In some instances this is because the farmer does not know any better. More often it is because he thinks he is not able to own a good bull. Under a co-operative system he would not have to own a bull of any kind. If each paid his co-operative, using mechanical insemination, for the service what it would cost him to keep a bull of the cheapest kind, it would make a great business for that co-operative. Even if mechanical insemination were used to its utmost, with our present knowledge ^{of it use, there are not enough} of the highest class sires to breed all the females of the country. However, if those of the second and third class were also called into service the results would be unheard-of improvement in our livestock. We have cited the dairy cattle industry only. There is an equally great or greater field in beef cattle on the ranges. There is another in the sheep industry. Others are in the horse and swine industry while the poultry industry offers a field probably as large as all the others combined..."

Extracted or Food Manufacture (London, May) reports: "Feeding
Dried Grass experiments were made with 16 shorthorn cows in order to
determine the value of grass extract and of dried extracted
grass in the winter ration and the carotin content of the milk produced
was determined. The essential features of the process for the prepara-
tion of the grass extract and the extracted grass (a recent innovation)
are the passage of the grass through a hot bath of juice from previous
extractions, followed by crushing between rollers, and evaporation below
50 deg. C. under reduced pressure to a syrupy consistence. The extracted
grass is then dried and baled. The results of the examination as to
yield of the milk, butter fat and solids not fat showed that neither the
extract nor the residual grass gave better results than the ordinary foods
used in the control ration. Determination of the carotin content of the
milk shows that there had been a significant response to the inclusion
of extracted grass in the ration, although the grass extract was without
effect. It is concluded that for the partial replacement of an ordinary
winter ration for dairy cows, extracted grass is as useful as young grass
dried by orthodox methods."

Wood Products New and more efficient methods of utilizing the world's
Research forests were reported at the joint meeting of the Inter-
national Union of Chemistry and the International Congress
of Chemistry recently in Rome, says a copyright Science Service report.
Chemical research on the uses of wood has brought about the necessary
conditions for an integrated forest policy and forest industry. Forest
management, producing yields on a sustained basis, is likely to be
adopted more than ever, Prof. ^{H. K. University of Washington} Benson said. Through chemistry the sup-
plies of pine trees in the South and the giant Douglas firs in the West
are both becoming available as sources of paper pulp. Through research,
the naval stores industry, too, is seeing new methods introduced. The
older method of using rotted trees is being supplemented by new ways of
using tree stumps for their high resinous content. Wood plastics are
finding increased use. The U. S. Forest Products Laboratory at Madison,
Wis., is developing wood plastics by partial hydrolysis of wood and hot-
molding the residue. Digestion of the wood under pressure in water and
aniline also yields a material which may be molded. These wood plastics
are hard, black, take a high polish, are strong and cheap to make. At
the University of Idaho wood is being gelatinized, in a form like vege-
table parchment and vulcanized fiber. Such gelatinized wood can be
molded and dried and colored during the process. It is about twice as
strong as the original wood.

Wildlife "Every conservation-minded 4-H Clubber will want to
Bulletin read a new bulletin, 'Teaching Conservation of Wildlife
Through 4-H Clubs,' which has been written by Ruth Lohmann
and published through the U. S. Department of Agriculture," says Success-
ful Farming (June). "It is listed as Miscellaneous Publication No. 291.
Though primarily designed for leaders, it will prove a splendid brief
study text."